DELAWARE HISTORY

October 1960

Delaware Cabinetmakers and Allied Artisans 1655-1855

by

CHARLES G. DORMAN

PUBLISHED SEMIANNUALLY BY THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DELAWARE
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Volume IX Number 2

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DELAWARE

OFFICERS—The Reverend Dr. John W. Christie, *President*; Mr. Henry F. du Pont, *First Vice-President*; Mr. H. Rodney Sharp, *Second Vice-President*; Mr. William Poole, *Secretary*; Mr. Rodman Ward, *Treasurer*.

DIRECTORS—The Officers; Hon. C. Douglass Buck; Mr. Henry P. Cannon II; Mr. Leon deValinger, Jr.; Mr. Pierre S. du Pont III; Hon. Hugh M. Morris; Hon. G. Burton Pearson, Jr.; Prof. H. Clay Reed; Mr. Charles Lee Reese, Jr.; Mr. Robert H. Richards, Jr.; Mr. Richard Riegel; Hon. Richard S. Rodney; Hon. Edwin D. Steel, Jr.; Hon. James M. Tunnell, Jr.; Mr. George Winchester; Hon. Daniel F. Wolcott.

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE—Mr. Charles Lee Reese, Jr., *Chairman and Editor*; Mr. Leon deValinger, Jr.; Prof. John A. Munroe; Prof. H. Clay Reed.

STAFF—Mrs. H. Clay Reed, *Executive Secretary*; Mrs. W. Francis Lindell, *Librarian*; Mrs. David Quinn, *Assistant Editor*; Mrs. Glenn S. Skinner.

Delaware History is published by the HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DELAWARE, Old Town Hall, Sixth and Market Streets, Wilmington, Delaware. The cost of subscription is included in the Society's annual $5.00 membership fee. Single copies may be obtained at a price of $1.50 at the Old Town Hall. Communications should be addressed to the Executive Secretary. The Editors assume no responsibility for statements of opinion or of fact made by the contributors.

Delaware History

ıme IX October, 1960 Number 2

Delaware Cabinetmakers and Allied Artisans

1655-1855

by

CHARLES G. DORMAN

PUBLISHED SEMIANNUALLY BY THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DELAWARE
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Note

Because of the nature of the article contained in this issue of *Delaware History,* the News Notes and Book List have not been included. Both of these sections will appear as usual in the next issue.

© 1960 By Historical Society of Delaware

Contents

ABOUT THE AUTHOR 109

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE 110

FOREWORD 111

INTRODUCTION 113

BIOGRAPHIES OF CABINETMAKERS AND ALLIED ARTISANS, ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED 117

APPENDIX

A. PAGES FROM THE WORKBOOK OF JOHN JANVIER, SR., 1794-1796 206

B. INVENTORY OF ESTATE OF DAVID PENNY, MAR. 21, 1832 209

C. INVENTORY OF ESTATE OF CHARLES TRUTE, DEC. 14, 1807 212

D. INVENTORY OF ESTATE OF WILLIAM PENNY, OCT. 9, 1843 214

E. INVENTORY OF ESTATE OF JOHN WHITE, MAR. 9, 1829 217

Illustrations

All illustrations are inserted between pages 150 and 151.

Crow Tall Case Clock
Whitelock Clock Case
Clock Case Label
Whitelock Sideboard I
Whitelock Sideboard II
Barnet Armchair and Label
McKinly Master's and Side Chair
Bacon Armchair
Janvier Chair
Janvier Chest
Starr Chest
John White Chest and Label
Signed McDowell Chest
McDowell Chest and Signature
McDowell Table
Starr Candlestand
Campbell Table
Mahogany Card Table
Hollingsworth Candlestand
White Burgesses Table
Alrichs Mirror
Mahogany Knife Box
Charles Trute Pianoforte
Ralph Corner Cupboard
Byrnes Secretary Desk
Drawings from Williams Account Book
Dell Noblett

About the Author

Mr. Dorman is at present a museum curator for the Independence ational Historical Park in Philadelphia. He studied history and English the University of Delaware, took courses at both American University nd George Washington University in Washington, D. C., and a Radcliffe ourse in Archival and Museum Management.

Prior to his present employment, he was manager of Danby Galleries f Wilmington for five years, and assistant curator, Division of Political listory, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C., for five years.

He has assisted in a number of historic restorations in the Delaware alley area. Mr. Dorman's hobby is collecting Delawareana.

Bibliographical Note

Unless otherwise noted, the following locations apply to the source materials here cited:

1. All newspapers are in the Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.
2. All Wilmington city directories are in the Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.
3. All wills, indentures, tax lists and assessment lists are in the Delaware State Archives, Dover.
4. All appendix material is a complete copy of documents in the Delaware State Archives, Dover.

Foreword

DELAWARE cabinetmakers have lived in the magnificent shadow of their Philadelphia colleagues long enough. A major purpose of this work is to bring them forward from the obscurity of the past and show the student of the decorative arts of the Delaware Valley that much fine furniture, usually attributed to the shops of eighteenth and nineteenth century Philadelphia, can be claimed by Wilmington and other Delaware cabinetmaking centers.

Sentiments of this nature were forcefully expressed in a Wilmington newspaper as long ago as 1829:

> "Damn the Philadelphia Cabinet Makers,"—said a housekeeper of Wilmington, the other day, as he was sending a bureau and some other articles of furniture to be mended. On inquiring into the cause of his anger we ascertained that a few months ago he furnished the greater part of his house from a Philadelphia Ware Room, because he, like too many of his townsmen, supposed he could save at least thirty per cent by purchasing in the city, and we could not feel the least sympathy for him that he found out his mistake at such a cost. The history of the Bureau, from which we may form an opinion of what he saved in other purchases, is this:—the exterior was very handsome, and he got it for about one dollar and fifty cents or two dollars less than a bureau equally handsome could be bought for in Wilmington; but we venture to assert that no cabinet maker in this Borough would suffer such a flimsy piece of work to be turned out of his shop. It had been in use but a very short time, and was tumbling to pieces, and to have it repaired, it will cost him at least the difference between the price he paid for it and the charge for one he might have purchased at home. Add to this the cost of freight and porterage, and a very little calculation will show how much he *saved* by going to Philadelphia on such an errand. . . .[1]

I do not propose to make any extravagant claims for Dela-

[1] *Delaware Register* (Wilmington), June 20, 1829.

ware artisans; Delaware householders who could afford fine furniture patronized the best Philadelphia cabinetmakers as well as those in their own community. What I hope to show, however, is that in the small but prosperous borough of Wilmington just prior to the Revolution and for sometime thereafter, there were skilled cabinetmakers who could match the work of Philadelphia if a Wilmington patron desired something *beyond* the Quaker adage " of the best sort, but plain." This combination of prosperity and ability will eventually, I hope, explain the furniture of high quality produced for President John McKinly, the Gillis family, and others.

The following cabinetmakers' survey presents in a series of alphabetically arranged biographies the bare bones of the past of Delaware cabinetmakers, joiners, chair makers, and turners which I have been able to bring to light during five years of search among Delaware records. The list is by no means complete.

The best compensation for a work of this sort is the knowledge that somewhere there is a piece of unrecorded Delaware furniture that will be brought forward and appreciated because of the interest this survey will arouse.

Introduction

NEW CASTLE, Delaware, founded in 1651 by the Dutch, was the first urban area in the entire Delaware Valley. As early as 1655 Jan Picolet, a carpenter, joiner, and turner was actively engaged in business there. In 1657 Jan Van der Bosch, a clock maker and watch repairer, appeared in local court records.

By the time of William Penn's arrival in 1682, New Castle was an "old" town with reasonably regular streets lined with brick, stone and wooden buildings. That many of them were well furnished for the time we can see by the seventeenth century estate inventories that have survived.

Few early American craftsmen limited themselves to one means of earning a living, and in Delaware a piano maker ran an inn, a turner was also a fisherman, and a cabinetmaker sold china and glass as a profitable sideline. All cabinetmakers were assured of the local coffin trade, if nothing else, so they were also undertakers, providing either a two-wheeled hearse or a four-wheeled converted farm wagon, depending upon the finances of the deceased.

The earliest account and work book (1700-1758) of a Delaware cabinetmaker thus far discovered is that of John Williams of New Castle. He could supply any object of wood, from coat buttons to chests-on-chest.

In 1739 when Wilmington received a borough charter, it was a recently revived community with only 600 inhabitants. It had, however, at least one accomplished cabinetmaker, Charles Bush. Bush arrived in the borough from Dublin, Ireland, having served apprentice to a cabinetmaker of that city. About a decade later, Henry Troth, a Quaker from the Eastern shore of Maryland, having completed his apprenticeship to some as yet unknown cabinetmaker, set up shop in the town. Troth employed journeymen in his shop and trained apprentices. Ziba Ferriss I,

one of the apprentices, succeeded him in the business upon his decline of health. In the latter half of the eighteenth century Wilmington provided employment for a number of master craftsmen: John White, John C. Petherbridge, Ziba Ferris, William Penny, Caleb Byrnes, Charles Trute, and others. Other communities in Delaware had cabinetmakers or joiners who invariably had some other occupation as a sideline or as their chief source of income.

Lewes, at the southern tip of the state, had access to all the east coast and foreign ports because of its prominent position at the head of Delaware Bay. Some fine furniture was owned here in the eighteenth century. Some of it was purchased in Philadelphia but other survivals from this era and area are plainer in workmanship and are evidently of local origin.

In southern New Castle county at the village of Cantwell's Bridge, John Janvier, Sr., worked competently in the styles of Chippendale and Hepplewhite. John Janvier, Sr.'s account book for the period 1794-1796 reveals that he did so much for Daniel Trotter of Philadelphia, in such a variety of forms, that one wonders today how much of the extant furniture assigned to Trotter is in reality a Delaware product. His sons John, Jr., and Peregrine succeeded him in the business and the former worked to the beginning of the Victorian era.

In the early 1800's Delaware cabinetmakers were much more liberal with inscriptions and labels. One cabinetmaker, James McDowell of Duck Creek Cross Roads, now Smyrna, probably signed most of his major case pieces. George Whitelock of Wilmington had a neat label made to identify and advertise his fine Hepplewhite-Sheraton style case pieces. Thomas Stevenson of Dover signed his case pieces, and it is well he did, for his cabinetwork could not otherwise be distinguished from that of his kinsman, James McDowell.

As a rule, mansions and their contents, though dispersed, survive, while the small houses, which in endless variety sheltered the bulk of the population, disappear, and their furnishings, if not worn out from constant usage, are discarded for a new fashion. In the northern part of the state population growth

d industrialization have, in the name of progress, aided the struction of many formerly fine houses. A considerable amount eighteenth century furniture has survived in the homes of scendants of the original owners or in special collections. elow Wilmington some exceptional furniture remains, some in e house for which it was purchased.

Dover, in the middle of the state, contains an outstanding documentary" domestic establishment, the Vincent Loockerman house, built in 1742. Architecturally, the house is like many her survivals in lower Delaware and the Eastern shore of Maryand: two stories substantially built of brick, narrow multi-paned indows, and a paneled interior. Its furniture, however, places in a category all its own. From the date of its erection until e present, the furnishings of the generation of occupants preeding the Revolution and those of the generations of the ederal era have all been retained intact. This would be unusual ough in itself, but the fact that the prosperous land-owning ockermans patronized the best cabinetmakers of eighteenth ntury Philadelphia and Delaware provides the student of merican furniture with a rare opportunity to see treasures a wholly authentic setting.

Farther south, in Sussex County, the home owners who felt need for new furnishings patronized local cabinetmakers or ent to Philadelphia or Baltimore, for access to the latter cabinetaking centers was easily had by boat up the Delaware or down e Choptank and Chesapeake. Lewes, as the Delaware River lot town, was in daily contact with Philadelphia boats.

An instance of an Eastern shore of Maryland resident ordering furniture in Philadelphia and shipping it through Delaware interesting in its descriptions:

> Sr. I am favored with your's and return you my hearty thanks for the trouble you have taken about my chaires which I now understand are at Appoquinamy. I have just now rec'ed a letter from Mr Hamilton with some directions concerning yr people which I shall carefully observe & do them all the service in my power, our provl Court is next week, shall advise your what is done when I return from Ann[apoli]s. I have chose rather to have a Scriptore, that is a large desk & book case atop, than a

Chest of drawers, which I beg youl get made good for me of Walnut with glass Shutters, and Send to Appoquinimy by Whillet, I will remitt the price when you let me know what it is, if I am troublesom you must blame yorself by being over & above kine, Such good nature as your's must expect to be so used I am with respect to your Spouse Sr Yor most hble Servt Ja Calder. Obr 10th 1734.[1]

[1] With letters received by James Steele, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Numismatic & Antiquarian Society Collection, Provincial Papers.

LEWIS ADAIR

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Adair is listed as a cabinetmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington ty Directory for the Year 1857*, and his home address is given as East xth Street near Pine.

ADAMS AND FARIES

abinetmakers *Wilmington* *Began work in 1815*

> CABINET, Windsor and Fancy Chair Making, Adams & Faries respectfully inform their friends and the public in general, that they intend carrying on the above business, in all its various branches, at the stand formerly occupied by D. French, lately dec'd. No. 101, Market Street. They will warrant their work to be well executed, and of the best materials. N. B. All orders will be thankfully received and promptly attended to.[1]

The Christian name of Adams I do not know, but the name of the lher partner was George G. Faries. Faries was a member of the Second ompany of Artillery, First Brigade of Delaware Militia, under Captain A. Rodney, Aug. 25 to Oct. 5, 1814.[2] A pencilled notation added after aries' name on the company payroll states that Faries was the brother- -law of T. C. Alrichs, Wilmington merchant, and that he died in vannah, Georgia.

[1] *American Watchman* (Wilmington), April 22, 1815.
[2] Manuscript payroll, 2nd Co. of Artillery, 1st Brigade of Delaware Militia, H. File, awer 4, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

JOHN AITKEN

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1802*

In 1802, John Aitken moved his cabinetmaking establishment from iladelphia because of the yellow fever epidemic there, and located at e corner of Fourth and Shipley Streets, in Wilmington. He advertised:

> CABINET WORK The Subscriber having left Philadelphia, during the present pestilence, begs leave to acquaint his friends and the public in general, that he has commenced his manu-

factory of CABINET-WARE, at the corner of High and Shipley streets, where ladies and gentlemen may have their houses furnished in whole or in part, in a few weeks. Orders for any piece of Cabinet work, finished either in a plain manner or handsomely inlaid according to the newest fashions, will be thankfully received. JOHN AITKEN Wilmington, Aug. 12, 1802.[1]

When the danger of yellow fever subsided with the first frosts of Fall, Aitken returned to Philadelphia. It is possible that his sojourn in Wilmington was of only four months duration, or from July to October, inclusive.[2]

[1] *Mirror of the Times & General Advertiser* (Wilmington), Aug. 14, 1802.
[2] Thomas J. Scharf, *History of Delaware, 1609-1888* (Philadelphia, 1888), II, 760.

SAMUEL AKSON

Turner ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1857 Directory***

Akson is listed as a turner in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*, and his house is located as being in Brandywine Village.

CHARLES ALLEN

Cabinetmaker ***Christiana Bridge*** ***Working c. 1790-c. 1820***

In 1796 Joseph Kinkead, "Clockmaker of White Clay Creek Hundred," sold to "Charles Allen carpenter and cabinet-maker of White Clay Creek Hundred" a plot of ground in Newark.[1] Apparently Allen bought this as an investment only, for he conducted an inn at his home which stood between the present Lewden house and the bridge over the Christina.

This house was occupied in the latter part of the eighteenth century by Joseph Kinkead, the clockmaker, and in the adjoining workshop Joseph worked in partnership with Alexander Kinkead.[2] It is entirely possible that Allen made some, if not most, of the clock cases for the Joseph and Alexander Kinkead partnership.

[1] Jeannette Eckman (Edit.), *The Kinkeads of Delaware as Pioneers in Minnesota, 1856-1868* (printed for George W. Butz, Jr., Wilmington, 1949), p. 63.
[2] *Ibid.*, p. 67.

D. ALRICHS

Joiner (?) *New Castle* *Working c. 1660-1700*

D. Alrichs' name is scratched on the back of an early Delaware mirror now on display in the Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington. (See photograph).

GEORGE ANDERSON

Joiner *Wilmington* *Working in 1786*

In the Treasurer's Ledger of the Borough of Wilmington for 1781-'91, located in the Delaware State Archives, there is an entry concerning the above craftsman under the date 1786. A page listing the persons who had complained to the Burgesses about real estate tax assessments includes the following:

1786 By a list of Errors Viz.
By George Anderson, Joiner—£0:4:0

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG

Chairmaker *New Castle* *Working in 1804*

William Armstrong, chairmaker, and Elizabeth his wife, sold to Thomas Turner, hatter, part of a tract on Harmony Street, New Castle.[1]

[1] Deeds, New Castle County, Book D-3 (New Castle County Court House, Wilmington), p. 287.

DUDSON BACON

Turner *Laurel* *Working second half of 18th century*

According to his descendants, Dudson Bacon was the prosperous proprietor of a saw mill at Bacon's Pond near Laurel in Sussex County. In his will [1] he calls himself "turner." Turners, from the earliest settlements to the turn of the eighteenth century, supplied the essentials in the way of minor pieces of furniture. It is possible that he supplied much of the minor furniture for this section of the county, as well as the lumber

and scantling for local carpenters. One uncomplicated rush-seat armchair attributed to him has survived in the home of a descendant, Mrs. J. Wheeler Campbell of Laurel. (See illustration.)

[1] Sussex County Wills, A 58, p. 32.

HARLAN BALDWIN

Chair Framer ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1853 and 1857 Directories***

Baldwin is listed as a chair framer in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, and the *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*. His house address in 1853 was Fifth Street between Orange and Tatnall and his 1857 address was 7 Robinson Street. In 1829 Baldwin was apprenticed to Jared Chesnut (*q. v.*), Wilmington chairmaker.[1]

[1] Apprentice Indentures, 1829, Harlan Baldwin, II, 250.

JOSEPH BALDWIN

Chair Painter ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1845 Directory***

Baldwin is listed as a chair painter in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845*. He lived on Tatnall Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets.

JAMES BALL

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1853 Directory***

Ball is listed as a cabinetmaker in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, and his address is given as 32 King Street.

JOHN S. BARBER

Chairmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1845 Directory***

Barber served apprentice to Jared Chesnut (*q. v.*) beginning with the year 1829.[1] He is listed in the 1845 directory at 4 Market Street.[2]

[1] Apprentice Indentures, 1829, John S. Barber, II, 153.

[2] Louis Wilson (pub.), *The Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* (Porter & Naff: Wilmington, 1845).

MARY ANN BARBER

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Mary Ann Barber, apparently John S. Barber's widow, is listed as a chairmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the year 1857*. Her address is listed as 16 Market Street.

PAUL BARNES

Turner *New Castle* *Working in 1713*

Indenture Nov. 12, 1713 between Paul Barnes of the town of New Castle, turner, who intermarried with Willia one of the daughters and co-heirs of Rener Vanderculen, deceased, Catherine Vanderculen, Johannah Vanderculen, & Annie Vanderculen of the same place, spinsters being also the daughters of the aforesaid Renere Vanderculen—on the one part and Henery Garrotson of Christeen Creek, yeoman, on the other part, for thirty £ . . . to Henery Garrotson 4/5 part of a certain plantation being on the north side of Christeen Creek, . . . and is called Cold Harbour, . . . by the land of Henery Ja[cobs]on, . . . land of John Richardson . . . witnessed Harbert Comie Jos: Wood Recorded 1789.[1]

[1] Deeds, (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.)

SAMPSON BARNET

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working last quarter of 18th century*

The earliest reference located is in the Marriage Records of Old Swedes Church, Wilmington. Under the date December 7, 1776, is an entry of the marriage of Sampson Barnet and Phoebe Grissie performed by the Reverend Lawrence Girelius.[1] In the Borough of Wilmington Treasurer's Ledger, Barnet was "Allowed . . . 3 Pounds for his service as pettit Constable" on September 7, 1786.[2] There are a number of his chairs in Wilmington, most of them have his brand "S. Barnet, Wilmington" under the seat. One fine comb back Windsor arm chair in the Danby Collection at the Historical Society of Delaware has both the brand and, a much rarer survival, a paper label which reads: "All

sorts of Windsors and Rush Botom Chairs, Settees, Bedsteads, Spinning Wheels & etc. made in the neatest and best Manner by Sampson Barnet in Market Street."

He also advertised that

> The subscriber respectfully informs his customers and the public in general, that he carries on, as usual, the Turning Business at his shop in Market Street Wilmington, where the articles in that branch are executed in the neatest and best manner. All sorts of Windsor and Rush-bottom Chairs, Settees, Bedsteads, &c. made at the shortest notice—Likewise Spinning-Wheels made by a compleat Artist lately arrived from Europe. As the subscriber has a large quantity of seasoned stuff by him, he flatters himself he will be able to give full satisfaction to all who please to employ him. Orders from the country will be complied with at the shortest notice, and the work done on the most reasonable terms. SAMPSON BARNET. October 3.[3]

In July, 1795, he advertised that he

> carries on the Windsor Chair making in all its branches, as usual, near the corner of High [Fourth] and King streets, next door to Dr. Capelle's . . . July 10, 1795. N. B. Wanted to the above business, two smart boys of about 14 years of age, also one journeyman, who is a compleat work man; none other need apply.[4]

The following month he announced that his apprentice Abraham Hoopes (*q. v.*) had run away.[5]

[1] "Records of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, Wilmington, Delaware," *Papers of the Historical Society of Delaware* (1890), IX, 746.

[2] Borough of Wilmington Treasurer's Ledger, 1780-1791 (Delaware State Archives, Dover.)

[3] *The Delaware Gazette* (Wilmington), October 10, 1789.

[4] *Ibid.*, July 10, 1795.

[5] *Ibid.*, August 15, 1795.

SAMUEL BARNEY

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1853 Directory***

Barney is listed as "cab maker" in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, and his address is given as 86 King Street.

GEORGE K. BAUGH

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

Baugh is listed as "cab maker" in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*. His address at that time was 82 King Street.

THOMAS B. BEESON

Turner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Beeson is listed as a turner in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for 1857*. His shop address is listed as "Pyle's Building, 129½ Orange [Street]" and his house was at 5 West Ninth Street. In 1839 Thomas B. Beeson was apprenticed to Hamilton Noblit, Wilmington cabinetmaker.[1]

[1] Apprentice Indentures, 1839, Thomas B. Beeson, VI, 37.

JOHN BELL

Shop Joiner or Cabinetmaker" *Dover* *Working before 1757-1760*

By an indenture signed March 29, 1757, John Bell, "Shop Joiner or Cabinetmaker" [1] of Dover, took James Mannin (*q. v.*) as an apprentice in his cabinetmaker's shop. Three years later, Bell, "failing in the exercise of his Trade, and being wholely determined to let cease, and quit the same . . ." gave up his shop and was ordered to release his apprentice James Mannin from his obligations and permit him to bind himself "to the same Trade in Philad[a] or Elsewhere." [2]

[1] Kent County Indentures. This Indenture dated 1757 is with Mannin's release in Kent County Indentures, 1760.
[2] James Mannin, Kent County Indentures, 1760.

ROBERT BELL

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Bell is listed as a chairmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*. His house address is listed as 35 Market Street.

ROBERT BINGHAM

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Bingham is listed as cabinetmaker in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845*. His address is listed as Front between Market and King.

JOHN R. BLACK

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Black is listed in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*. His house address is given as 79 French Street.

ALEXANDER BRYAN

Turner *St. George's Hundred* *Working before 1760*

Alexander Bryan of St. George's Hundred and County of New Castle on Delaware, turner, in his will signed November 21, 1760, and proved the following December 15, left to his brother James Bryan "all my right and title to the Sawmiln & Streams with three Acres of land convenient to the same . . . together with all my tools belonging to the Shop and the half of the timber wheels. . . ." [1] He leaves money, personal effects, and real estate to other brothers and sisters, but his brother James, apparently his partner, and by his will full owner of the business and his successor, continues as the "turner" in the family.

[1] New Castle County Wills, 1760.

JAMES BRYAN

Turner *St. George's Hundred* *Working in 1760*

James Bryan succeeded his brother Alexander (*q. v.*).

AARON BURTON

Joiner *Sussex County* *Working c. 1784-1802*

The will of Aaron Burton begins: "In the name of God, Amen. I Aaron Burton of the County of Sussex in the State of Delaware, Joiner. . . ." [1] He leaves his estate equally divided between his wife Esther and his nephew Stratton. The will was signed March 10, 1798, and was proved in 1803. Aaron Burton's tax rate [2] for the year 1784 was 3£ according to the Tax List for Indian River Hundred of that year. His kinsman, William Burton (*q. v.*), was taxed 15 £ for the same year.[3]

[1] Sussex County Wills, LI, 66-68.
[2] Tax Assessment Lists, Indian River and Angola Hundreds, Sussex County.
[3] *Ibid.*

WILLIAM BURTON

Joiner and Chairmaker *Sussex County* *Working last quarter of 18th century*

William Burton of Indian River Hundred, Sussex County, appears in tax lists for that Hundred from 1784-1798. He is listed variously as "joiner" and "chear maker." In 1798 his real and personal property assessment, including farmland, woodland, cattle and six slaves, came to the respectable sum of 603 £.[1] Burton was apparently successful both as a farmer and a cabinetmaker.

[1] Tax Assessment Lists, Indian River Hundred, Sussex County.

CHARLES BUSH

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working 1738-c. 1758*
b. Nov. 15, 1717

In a collection of family papers recently presented to the Historical Society of Delaware is the following biographical data concerning Charles Bush, cabinetmaker:

> Youngest son of Christopher and Elizabeth Bush. Born in Dublin Nov. 15th 1717, married Rebecca Scott in Wilmington, Del., Jan. 5th 1739. They had two children.
>
> Charles was given a liberal education and after the death of

his father in 1737 he, with his sister Ann, came to this country and made their home with their brother David. He commenced business as a cabinet maker or "joyner" as they spelled it, and remained in that business several years. In 1739 he married Rebecca Scott, a daughter of Samuel and Ann Scott, worthy people, residents of Wilmington. Her father presented him with the lot on the S. E. Corner of 2nd and King Sts., the deed of which, now in the possession of Henry McLear, a great grandson, is dated in "ye fifth day of January in ye 13th year of George ye second of Great Britain and year of our Lord 1739," made by Samuel Scott and Ann his wife to "Charles Bush, Joyner, and Son in Law to ye said Saml Scott."

The consideration is stated to have been "five shillings and as [?] well for in consideration of the love and good will which we have to our son-in-law the said Charles Bush." (This Saml Scott seems to have had a considerable interest in the lower part of the town, as we find his name heading the list of those who in 1737 petitioned Thomas Penn with a protest against Wm Shipley building a market house in 4th street).

On the lot Charles Bush erected a frame building in which he lived and in which his son Samuel was born Dec. 29th 1747. In 1752 he sold the lot and house to Robert Lewis. Consideration, Thirty Pounds. Soon after this, his wife Rebecca died and after two or three years he married again, but this wife lived but a short time, and after her death, he, leaving his children with his brother David, sailed for the West Indies, with he had become engaged in trade. He never returned, but died in Grenada.

Charles Bush took an active interest in affairs of the colony, from the time of his arrival. In the French and Indian War 1740 to 1746, he raised a company of Militia for the defense of the colony and was elected Captain. Though never called to active duty he maintained its organization and discipline for a number of years, and in 1747 he, with his company took an active part in the rebuilding and arming of Fort Christina, under the direction of his brother David, [see HENRY TROTH biographical sketch in this regard] and we find his name signed to the letter written on the 6th of July, 1747 to Anthony Palmer advising him of the action in that matter.

Charles Bush left considerable property. . . .[1]

[1] Hall Collection, Bush genealogical notes, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

CALEB BYRNES

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington and Stanton* *Working second half of 18th century, b. 1732, d. 1794*

I now come to Grandfather's youngest son, Caleb (who was my Father), I believe he was born in the year 1732 some two years after Grandfather's arrival in this Country, he learned Chear making or Carpenter's I do not know which and as to schooling got but little and that was poor 100 years ago. He married my Mother Mary Davis at Plymouth Meeting in the neighborhood of Philada.[1]

Caleb and Mary Byrnes were living in Wilmington in 1771 and 1772. They had moved here from Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania. In 1771 Caleb made a walnut desk and book case for himself containing the inlay "C B 1771" on the interior door of the desk. This desk was given to the Historical Society of Delaware by a Byrnes descendant. By March, 1773, Byrnes had moved his family to Stanton.

[1] D. Byrnes, "Reminiscences of the Byrnes Family" (1842, Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), p. 24. In Wilmington's first city directory published in 1814 by Robert Porter, Daniel Byrnes is listed as cashier of the Bank of Wilmington and Brandywine.

JAMES FITCH BYRNES

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working second half of 18th century*

James Fitch Byrnes, was the next son of Joshua Byrnes, he never married, he learned the chair making business with Jno Yarnall in Wilmington. Afterwards, the milling business, he was rather unhappy in departing after changing place and he had been in Mills from Montreal in Canada to Virginia—he died at his brother Samuel's in Baltimore and it is believed he made a good end.[1]

[1] D. Byrnes, "Reminiscences of the Byrnes Family" (1842, Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), p. 9.

SAMUEL BYRNES

Carpenter and Joiner *Wilmington* *Working c. 1749-1795*

> Saml Byrnes learned Carpenter & Joiner Trade with Ziba Ferris [*q. v.*] and Commenced business with him at the Corner of Market & Queen [Fifth] Streets in Wilmington . . .[1]

From the combined reminiscences of Daniel Byrnes and Benjamin Ferris, Samuel Byrnes, who by the reckoning of his nephew was born a few years before 1732, could not have served his apprenticeship under Ziba Ferris. Ziba was born in 1743 and was apprenticed to Henry Troth, cabinetmaker of Wilmington.[2] Probably Byrnes was working in Troth's shop at the time that Ferris entered it as an apprentice. The partnership of Byrnes and Ferris that Daniel Byrnes remembered would have begun at the time that Ferris completed his service, or about 1764.

Samuel Byrnes and John White (*q. v.*) became partners in the cabinetmaking business some time before May, 1791, at which time White's label[3] announced that the partnership had recently been dissolved. It appears then that Byrnes was in partnership with Ziba Ferris before the Revolution and with John White afterwards. Upon the dissolution of this latter partnership in 1791 Byrnes continued as a merchant and insurance agent in Wilmington until his removal to Baltimore about 1795. He is not listed as a cabinetmaker in Baltimore for this period, but as he was at the time in his late sixties he may have retired.

[1] D. Byrnes, "Reminiscences of the Byrnes Family" (1842, Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), p. 8.

[2] Benjamin Ferris, "My Kith and Kin" (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington).

[3] See illustration of White's label.

GEORGE H. CALWAY

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Calway is listed as cabinetmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*. His house was at 103 East Third Street.

SAMUEL CANBY

Cabinetmaker's Apprentice *Wilmington* *Apprenticed 1765-1772*

SAMUEL CANBY, the second son of Oliver Canby and Elizabeth Shipley was born 11th mo. 6th, 1751, according to the New (Style). His father dying when he was three years old, he remained under care of his mother till old enough to learn some trade. He was then put as an apprentice with Ziba Ferris [*q. v.*] of Wilmington to learn the business of a Carpenter and Cabinet maker, but a few months [before] the conclusion of his apprenticeship, making up his mind to follow the business of a miller, he satisfied Z[iba] F[erris] for the unexpired [part of] his [term] and removed to Brandywine 11 mo., 16, 177 (2).[1]

[1] Benjamin Ferris, "My Kith and Kin" (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), p. 27.

ALEXANDER CARR

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1788*

Alexander Carr is listed as a chairmaker in the account book of John Ferris (*q. v.*), a Wilmington cabinetmaker who also operated a general store. In an entry for Jan. 1, 1788, Carr is listed as having paid a balance of three dollars and on the sixth of June in the same year he is credited as being "paid in full."[1]

[1] John Ferris Account Book, 1785-1790, Business Ledgers, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington, p. 22.

GEORGE CARVER

Turner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Carver is listed as a turner in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*. His house address was 5 West Ninth Street.

THOMAS CARY

Joiner *Cedar Creek Hundred* *Tax list, 1790-1798*

"Thomas Cary, Joyner," is in a list of taxables in "Ceder Creek Hundred" for the years 1790, 1791, 1795, and 1798.[1]

[1] Sussex County Tax Lists, Cedar Creek Hundred.

GREGG CHANDLER

Turner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Chandler is listed as a turner in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845*. His addresses were the corner of Shipley and Seventh Streets for his shop, and King between Seventh and Eighth for his residence.

JARED CHESNUT

Chairmaker *Christiana and Wilmington* *Working 1800 to after 1831*

Many bamboo Windsor and fancy Sheraton chairs bearing the brand "J. Chesnut, Wilmington" have survived in the Wilmington area. The earliest reference to Chesnut I have found is in an entry in the account book of the David and Samuel Nivin store at Christiana. On March 9, 1800, "Garret Chesnut" paid 7 shillings, 6 pence for a pair of women's shoes. On the 13th of May following, however, he bought household and business items in abundance among which were a bake oven, a tea kettle, a "Tenant Saw 7/6" and "1 Taper Bitt 1/42."[1]

In March of 1804 he had moved from the vicinity of Christiana and was in partnership with James Ross, (*q. v.*) chairmaker, on Hemphill's wharf.[2]

In 1811 Chesnut felt prosperous enough to buy two shares in the Wilmington and Kennett Turnpike Company,[3] and in 1814 he had a chairmaking establishment by himself at 20 Market Street, east side of the street between Front and Second.[4] He was at the same time in partnership with Samuel Harker (see CHESNUT AND HARKER) in the dry goods business next door at 22 Market Street. This partnership was dissolved in August, 1814.[5] On February 4, 1818, the contents of his dwelling and shop, "a variety of household and kitchen furniture and a few dozen

Windsor chairs" were sold by James Brobson, United States Marshal.[6] In 1827 the local paper announced that Jared Chesnut's son William D. Chesnut had taken over his father's business.[7] The senior Chesnut refused to give up, apparently, for he had apprentices until 1832. In 1829 these included Harlan Baldwin,[8] William A. Gray,[9] and John Barber;[10] in 1831, Peter Stidham;[11] and in 1832, Abel Dougherty.[12]

[1] David and Samuel Nivin Account Book, 1799-1800, Business N, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

[2] *Mirror of the Times and General Advertiser* (Wilmington), March 21, 1804.

[3] Wilmington and Kennett Turnpike Company Ledger (Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), p. 25.

[4] Robert Porter, *A Directory of the Borough of Wilmington and Brandywine Village*, 1814.

[5] *Delaware Gazette* (Wilmington), Aug. 8, 1814.

[6] *American Watchman* (Wilmington), Feb. 4, 1818.

[7] *Ibid.*, March 27, 1827.

[8] Apprenticeship Indentures, Harlan Baldwin, 1829, II, 250.

[9] *Ibid.*, William A. Gray, 1829, II, 237.

[10] *Ibid.*, John Barber, 1829, II, 253.

[11] *Ibid.*, Peter Stidham, 1831, III, 104.

[12] *Ibid.*, Abel Dougherty, 1832, III, 324.

WILLIAM D. CHESNUT

Chairmaker — *Wilmington* — *Advertised in 1827*

William D. Chesnut succeeded his father Jared Chesnut (*q. v.*) in the chairmaking business on March 23, 1827, according to an advertisement in the *American Watchman* (Wilmington), March 27, 1827.

CHESNUT AND HARKER

Chairmakers — *Wilmington* — *Working in 1814*

Dissolution of Partnership.

The co-partnership heretofore existing between the subscribers, under the firm of Chesnut and Harker, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons having demands against, or indebted to the late firm, will please call upon Samuel Harker for settlement. Jared Chesnut, Samuel Harker.

The business will be continued at the stand of the late firm, No. 22, Market Street, by the subscriber; who solicits a continuance of the favors of his friends and the public. Samuel Harker Aug. 6, 1814.[1]

[1] *Delaware Gazette*, Aug. 8, 1814.

GEORGE C. CLAYPOOLE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 and 1857 Directories*

In Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* Claypoole is listed as living at 51 Walnut Street. In William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* his address is 52 West Seventh Street.

EBENEZOR COLLINS

Joiner *Little Creek Hundred, Sussex County* *Tax list, 1797, 1798*

" Ebenezor Collins, joiner," of Little Creek Hundred, Sussex County, Delaware is on the tax assessment lists for the years 1797 and 1798. " The Amount of the Real and Personal Property " is 200 £.[1]

[1] Sussex County Tax List, Little Creek Hundred, 1797, 1798.

ELIAS CONWELL

Cabinetmaker *Brandywine Village* *Listed in 1814 Directory*

Elias Conwell is listed in Wilmington's first city directory of 1814, as living in Brandywine Village and being a cabinetmaker by trade.[1] Nothing more is known at present of this Elias Conwell, though it would be interesting to know what connection he may have had with an Elias Conwell of Sussex County, Delaware, who in 1767 owed twelve shillings, six pence in delinquent taxes.[2]

[1] Robert Porter, *Directory of the Borough of Wilmington and Brandywine Village, 1814.*

[2] Delinquent Tax List, Sussex County, 1767.

BENJAMIN COX

Chairmaker and Chair Painter *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 and 1857 Directories*

In Joshua Heald's 1853 directory, Cox is listed as a chair painter; in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* he is called a chairmaker and his residence is 16 Market Street.

WILLIAM COX

hairmaker *New Castle and Philadelphia* *Working from before 1767-1796*

William Cox, Chairmaker, who came from New Castle, Delaware, laboured continuously "next bel. (ow) (Christ) Church in 2nd St." from 1767 until 1796; so that he must have made all the patterns currently favoured, and produced large quantities of them in order to maintain a shop at this then fashionable address.[1]

[1] William MacPherson Hornor, *The Blue Book, Philadelphia Furniture from illiam Penn to George Washington* (Philadelphia, 1935), p. 296.

GATES DAVIS

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Davis' address in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the ear 1845* is Front Street between Poplar and Lombard.

BENJAMIN DEMAREST

urner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* sts Demarest as a turner and gives his address as West Ninth Street near ipley.

SAMUEL DERICKSON

urner and Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1791*

In the account book of Joseph Weldin covering the years 1791 to 793, we find that Samuel Derickson was paid for turning bed posts and r "Bottoming 2 Chears."[1]

[1] Joseph Weldin account book, 1791-93, Business W, Historical Society of Delaware, ilmington.

SAMUEL DICKSON

Cabinet and Plane Maker *Wilmington* *Working c. 1772-1795*

SAMUEL DICKSON, formerly of the Borough of Wilmington, in the State of Delaware, Cabinet and plane maker, now supposed to reside in or near Frederick Town, in the State of Maryland, if he will personally apply to John Donald, of the said Borough of Wilmington, on or before the 15th instant, he will hear something to his advantage. The Printers of Maryland and Virginia are requested to insert the above few lines in their Papers.—The Baltimore Telegraph, March 16, 1796.[1]

Samuel Dixon, apparently this same person, appears in "A List of the Taxables of Christiana Hundred A. D. 1772—for Inspector to judge of the Electors thereof viz." [2] A list composed largely of Wilmington cabinetmakers, clockmakers, and silversmiths then follows, including Dixon (Dickson).

[1] Alfred Coxe Prime, *The Arts & Crafts in Philadelphia, Maryland, and South Carolina, 1786-1800* (Walpole Society, 1932), Series II, p. 175.

[2] Miscellaneous New Castle County Manuscripts, Delaware State Archives, Dover.

MINOS DULANEY

Ship Joiner, House Carpenter, Furniture Maker *Laurel* *Working 2nd quarter 19th century*

Dulaney, free negro of Laurel in Sussex County, was a versatile and successful wood worker. Mrs. J. Wheeler Campbell of Laurel has supplied me with the information concerning Dulaney. She has a pine table which he made in her collection.

CHARLES C. EMORY

Cabinetmaker *Dover* *Working in 1823*

FURNITURE—The subscriber respectfully informs the citizens of Dover, and the public generally, that he constantly keeps on hand, of his own manufacturing, a general assortment

of fashionable cabinet furniture, consisting of Sideboards of different patterns, Bureaus do.do. Secretaries and Book Cases, Pillar and Claw Breakfast and Card Tables, Plain do.do. Dining tables in sets, Ladies Work Tables, Sofas, Chairs, Candle and Wash Stand, Mahogany Bedsteads, Curl Maple and Cherry do. Cradles, Cribs, Countinghouse Desks, & c.

All of the above articles are and will continue to be made to sell to customers at a moderate price; workmanship warranted to be well executed, of good materials, and cheaper then ever was offered before. Persons wishing to purchase any of the above articles, are respectfully invited to call at his factory, at the north end of Dover, in the house formerly occupied by Augustus M. Schee, as a printing office, where all orders will be thankfully received and punctually attended to.

Old furniture mended and handsomely polished, on reasonable terms.

Charles C. Emory.[1]

Dover, April 15.

[1] *Delaware Gazette*, April 22, 1823.

THOMAS THOMPSON ENOS

binetmaker *Smyrna and Odessa* *Working 1838-1889*
b. 1817, d. 1889

Thomas Thompson Enos . . . was born near Smyrna and learned both cabinet-making and undertaking from Mr. Alexander Ferris. . . . T. T. Enos married and moved to Odessa about 1840, where he worked and died.[1]

1843 Enos took William F. Smith as an apprentice.[2] Among the items furniture known to have been made by Enos are beds, a cradle for ns, dining table with twelve leaves, chairs, and a pie safe of pine h tin doors decorated with punch work containing his name and date 1845.[3]

[1] Excerpts from a letter from Mrs. C. Raymond Cummins, great-grand-daughter T. T. Enos, to Miss Ruthanna Hindes, Oct. 10, 1956 (Author's Collection).
[2] William F. Smith, Apprenticeship Indentures, 1843, VII, 64.
[3] Cummins letter, *op. cit.*

JAMES ERWIN

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working last quarter of 18th and early 19th century*

"JAMES ERWIN, Informs his Friends & the Public in general, that, since the decease of his father, he still continues to carry on the Cabinet-making Business, As usual." [1] James was the son of John Erwin, cabinetmaker (*q. v.*), who had operated a cabinetmaker's shop in Wilmington since 1751.

[1] *The Delaware Gazette*, July 19, 1797.

JOHN ERWIN

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working 1751-1797 b. 1730, d. 1797*

At his father's death in 1797, James Erwin (*q. v.*) informed the public that he carried on the cabinetmaking business as usual.[1] John Erwin did cabinetwork in the borough of Wilmington for forty-six years and at the same time was very active in the local government. In 1755 he was elected High Constable and Collector of the Borough; in 1763, 1765, 1768, and 1788 he was Assistant to the Town Burgesses.[2]

The estimated population of Wilmington in 1793 was 3,000 persons.[3] In 1794 William Poole and James H. Starr took account of the persons over sixty years of age in the area, with their birth date and present age, to which was eventually added the date of death during the period that Benjamin Ferris the historian continued the account. Frequently the three chroniclers included the occupation of the person listed. John Erwin is listed as "carpenter" and thus one wonders how many cabinetmakers are lost to view under this more prosaic title. In fact, since eighteenth century cabinetmakers were so strangely modest in the use of their occupational title, it would be well to check each person paid for making a coffin, as found in the innumerable estate settlements in the Delaware State Archives. If a person could make a coffin he could just as well make a cabinet. This could also be done with the "carpenter" designations in wills registered in the court houses of the three counties in the seventeenth, eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Betsy Montgomery, the town gossip, had a much better recollection of the Erwin family. In her *Reminiscences* she says, "At the corner of

urth street [and French?] was the Erwin family, worthy people of olden
s. The ancestor was a cabinet maker, and owned much property." [4]

[1] *The Delaware Gazette*, July 19, 1797.
[2] Wilmington Borough Minutes (Ms. in Delaware State Archives, Dover).
[3] Benjamin Ferris, "My Kith and Kin" (1838, Ms. in Historical Society of Dela-
e, Wilmington), p. 81-82.
[4] Elizabeth Montgomery, *Reminiscences of Wilmington, in Familiar Village Tales,*
cient and New (2nd ed., Wilmington: Johnston and Bogia, 1872), p. 212.

JOHN FERRISS, SR.

binetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Working 1775-1824***

In the Wilmington Borough Minutes for October 9, 1775, we have this
erence to Ferriss: "John Ferriss for 6 Windsor Chairs & Sundries." [1]
ne town burgesses were fitting up the second floor of the Upper Market
ouse at Fourth and Markets Streets for their meetings and these were
rt of the furnishings. Perhaps these same chairs were used in the 1798
own Hall as well.

In 1789, Ferriss, with his combined general store, hardware store,
binetmaker's shop, and chairmaking establishment, advertised: "New
ed & White Clover, Timothy & Hemp Seed, To be sold by John Ferriss,
the sign of the Hand-Saw, in Market Street, Wilmington: Likewise
neat and general assortment of Ironmongery, Cutlery, Saddlery, Lint-
ed Oil and Painter's Colors, as usual." [2] In the next week's issue he
cluded a long list of merchandise of interest to cabinetmakers: "A
rge assortment of Brass Drawer and Desk Handles and Escutcheon
andles and Roses d[itt]o. Desk, Drawer, Chest, Book Case, Cupboard,
ock Case, Trunk, Tea Box & Prospect Locks & Hinges." [3]

John Ferriss, Sr., was a relative of Ziba Ferris, Sr. (*q. v.*), apparently
first cousin. Both these mid-eighteenth century Wilmington cabinet-
akers may have apprenticed to Henry Troth. We know that Ziba did,
d the relationship and closeness of the Quaker community would
ggest such a course. John continued to advertise his general store and
rdware business, but the papers do not mention that he is a cabinet
d chairmaker. Perhaps he assisted his cousin Ziba when called upon
r cabinetwork but concentrated on his own business for a steady income.
hn was an executor of the estate of Ziba at the time of the latter's
ath in 1794. In this capacity he served with his cousin's wife, Edith
arpless Ferris. In order to settle the estate the two executors placed
e following notice in the *Delaware Gazette* early in 1797:

> For The Last Time. All persons who are indebted to the Estate of Ziba Ferriss, deceased, are requested to discharge the same within thirty days from the date hereof, otherwise they may depend a course will be taken which the law directs; and any who may yet have Accounts against the said Estate, are requested to bring them forward, properly attested, as the Subscribers wish to close the Affairs of the deceased, in order to make up with the Court. John Ferriss, Sen., Edith Ferriss, Ex., 1st mo. 12, 1797. . . . Those who may have Accounts against Edith Ferriss or John Ferriss, jun. previous to the 12th mo. 10, 1796, are requested to render them for settlements; and those who are indebted to either, are called upon to discharge the same to John Ferriss, Jun. N. B. J. F. carries on the Cabinet-making Business in all its branches, as usual. Jan. 14.[4]

The important part of this notice is the inclusion at the end that John Ferriss, Jr., carried on the cabinetmaking business of his father. The "Junior" was apparently used to distinguish this John from his father's cousin, the subject of this sketch, who signed himself "Senior." John, Jr., was born in 1775 and, like his father Ziba, was a cabinetmaker.

[1] Wilmington Borough Minutes (1775, Delaware State Archives, Dover).
[2] *Delaware Gazette*, Feb. 7, 1789.
[3] *Ibid.*, Feb. 14, 1789.
[4] *Ibid.*, Feb. 4, 1797.

JOHN FERRISS, JR.

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *b. 1775, d. 1802*

John Ferriss, Jr., son of Ziba Ferris, Sr., cabinetmaker, and first cousin once removed of John Ferriss, Sr., cabinetmaker, apparently served his apprenticeship with his father in Wilmington. He was born December 10, 1775, and married Sarah Harlan, daughter of Caleb Harlan, October 22, 1800.[1] Assuming that he began his apprenticeship at the age of thirteen years, he was a cabinetmaker in his own right by 1796; or as a member of a cabinetmaker's household, he may have followed his father's trade even earlier.

John was eighteen years old when his father wrote a will giving his wife Sarah the use of his house (Third & Shipley, S. W. corner), 100 £ worth of household goods, 40 £ a year during her widowhood, "the use of my joiner's shop and my Joiners tools[,] benches[,] stove and grindstone

nd also the sum of sixty pounds." [2] The will is dated April 22, 1794, nd had John Ferriss, Sr., and Edith Ferris, the widow, as executors. Ziba ied in May of 1794.

The estate was still in the process of being settled in 1797 when the xecutor's notice appeared in the local newspaper " For The Last Time." o this notice was appended a notice of John Ferriss, Jr.:

> Those who may have Accounts against Edith Ferriss or John Ferriss, jun. previous to the 12th mo. 10, 1796, are requested to render them for settlement; and those who are indebted to either, are called upon to discharge the same to John Ferriss, Jun. N. B. J. F. carries on the Cabinet-making Business in all its branches, as usual. Jan. 14. [1797].[3]

his refers to the interim between Ziba's death and December 10, 1796. n the latter date John, Jr., came of age and became owner of the oiner's shop and tools left in trust to his mother until that time.

A " John Ferriss, Junr " appears in the Christiana Hundred tax list or c. 1798 but unfortunately the columns which would provide the mportant information concerning the size of his property are blank, while the two entries are misleading: " Personal tax [$] 400 " and " Value f the Whole of the Real and Personal tax [$] 207." [4] Also we can only ssume that this is John the cabinetmaker and not a cousin of the same ame living outside Wilmington.

John was destined to carry on the family business only a few years, or he died November 1, 1802,[5] intestate, leaving a wife and a son John II who was also to become a Wilmington cabinetmaker.[6]

Betsy Montgomery in her *Reminiscences* tells of Ferriss' attentions o the victims of the Wilmington 1802 yellow fever epidemic which aused his death:

> The visits of John Ferris, too, we hold in grateful remembrance. But his philanthropy claims public notice. Whenever the pestilential breath blew in sickness, death and sorrow, there he was found, by day and by night, to administer relief. All were objects of his peculiar care, whether in stately mansion or lowly cabin. Even death seemed to have respect to his services, and to leave him a little longer to follow up these acts of mercy till the pestilence was stayed. Yet he also was borne away as the last victim, a martyr in the cause of humanity, and none was more deeply lamented.[7]

[1] Benjamin Ferris, " My Kith and Kin " (1838, Ms. in Historical Society of elaware, Wilmington), p. 55.

[2] Ziba Ferriss, Sr.'s will was probated May 5, 1794. New Castle County Register of Wills, Wilmington, Book N, I, 424.

[3] *Delaware Gazette & General Advertiser*, Feb. 4, 1797.

[4] Robert Armstrong (Comp.), New Castle County Tax List, Christiana Hundred, c. 1798 (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington).

[5] Administration papers for the estate of John Ferris, Jr., Nov. 9, 1802, New Castle County Register of Wills, Book P, I, 157.

[6] See also John Ferris III.

[7] Elizabeth Montgomery, *Reminiscences of Wilmington, in Familiar Village Tales, Ancient and New* (2nd ed., Wilmington: Johnston and Bogia, 1872), p. 178.

JOHN FERRIS III

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Working c. 1822-c. 1852***

A mahogany bureau with swinging glass, in the late Sheraton style, has this inscription in a drawer: "This the Property of John B. Porter made by John Ferris Wil—Del May 1833." [1] In the same year that this bureau was inscribed John Ferris III took Louis Baldwin as an apprentice.[2] Ferris is listed in the 1845 City Directory as having his shop on Shipley Street between Second and Third.[3] This would have been the Ferris family home on the southwest corner of Third and Shipley Streets. By 1853 Ferris had either retired or passed away, for in the City Directory of that year "MURPHEY & RUSSELL [*q. v.*], Cabinet makers," advertise that they are "successors to JOHN FERRIS." [4]

[1] Collection of Miss Eleanor B. Johnson, Wilmington.

[2] Apprenticeship Indentures, IV, 14.

[3] Lewis Wilson (Comp.), *Wilmington Directory for the Year 1845* (Wilmington: Porter & Naff).

[4] Joshua Heald (Pub.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853.*

ZIBA FERRIS, SR.

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Working c. 1762-1794***

Ziba Ferris son of John Ferris and Abigail Tryon of New Milford in the State of Connecticut, was born at New Milford 8 mo. 24th 1743, N. S. (New Style). His parents removed to Wilmington in the State of Delaware to which place John's brothers David and Zechariah had removed some years before. John built a house in Tatnall Street near Queen Street [Fifth] between High [Fourth] and Queen, on the Northwest Side;—

yet Standing—and sunk a Tan Yard, now belonging to James Baynes (2 mo. 5, 1838).[1]

John Ferris died of smallpox after two years residence here and his children were placed with relatives. Benjamin Ferris, writing his family reminiscences in 1838 continues:

> Ziba my father was taken under the care and protection of my Uncle David Ferris and his wife—They were excellent and truly conscientious people, and he was tenderly cared for by them, according to their views of duty, until he was old enough to be placed apprentice to learn some trade—When . . . he was put to a certain Henry Troth a Cabinet maker in Wilmington to learn that business [assuming that his apprenticeship was of 7 years duration, this would have been about the year 1758]. Then he served his Master faithfully until he was of full age—having during the latter period of his apprenticeship owing to Henry's ill health, acted as his principal in the Conduct of the Concern.
>
> Their workshop was situate at the Southerly Corner of High [Fourth] and Shipley Streets—now having a two story Brick building standing on the spot and occupied as a Tavern. [This would have been the southeast corner, as the William Shipley house occupied the southwest corner.] During the apprenticeship of Ziba Ferris he was remarkable for the propriety and consistancy of his conduct—not only regarding the interests of his master with scrupulous and affectionate fidelity, but employing his leisure hours in religious and moral improvements, with the most unremitting assiduity. Hence it was . . . he became a man of great and acknowledged value in Civil and Religious Society, —and who from a pennyless Orphan, through industry and economy, not only raised a family of Children, during a period of great commotion and embarrassment; but left a Valuable Estate behind him, the fruits of his Own exertion, unaided by any Adventitious circumstances either of Wealth or Worldly influence.
>
> It gives me pleasure to record an anecdote relating to my father which was related to me by a worthy old Friend whose name was Samuel Jobson—On meeting him in the Street of Philadelphia about the year 1810 he inquired my name and on being informed, he asked if I was any ways related to Ziba Ferris of Wilmington who served his time with Henry Troth—On my answering that I was his son, he remarked as nearly as I can

recollect as follows "Well, during thy Father's apprenticeship I worked as a journeyman with Henry Troth, and I have this testimony to bear concerning him, that he was a very exemplary young man, and I well remember that during our leisure time, while the rest of us were amusing ourselves in vain pastimes, he was spending it in reading the New Testament." Benj. Ferris, Wilmington 2d mo. 5, 1834.[2]

[1] Benjamin Ferris, "My Kith and Kin" (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware) p. 33-36.
[2] *Ibid.*

HENRY FINNEY

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

In William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* Finney's address is "boards in Walnut Street above East 8th."

WILLIAM H. FISCHLER

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

Fischler was apprenticed in 1845 to John Noblit (*q.v.*) and was listed in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* in partnership as "Fischler & Barney, cabinet & blind makers, 86 King [Street]."

HENRY FLANIGAN

Joiner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Flanigan is listed as a joiner in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* and his address is given as 113 West Front Street.

PETER BRYNBERG FORMAN

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1853*

P. B. FORMAN, CABINET MAKER, No. 103 Shipley street, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE. All kinds of Furniture kept on hand, or made to order at the shortest notice, in the best style, at reasonable prices. COFFINS MADE WITH THE UTMOST DISPATCH.[1]

[1] Joshua Heald (pub.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, p. 134.

FRENCH & WAY

Cabinetmakers *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1813; in 1814 Directory*

CABINET MAKING—The subscribers having purchased the establishment of Wm French, have commenced the CABINET BUSINESS, at his late store, No. 101, Market Street, next door below the American Watchman Office, under the form of FRENCH & WAY. Intending to keep a constant supply of the best seasoned stuff—good workmen and materials of every kind—they are induced to solicit the patronage of their friends and a liberal public, whose favors will be thankfully received. DAVID FRENCH, JOSEPH WAY.
Wilmington, Nov. 20, 1813.[1]

The following year the firm had prospered to the extent that it occupied two adjoining shops on Market Street. The firm is listed as: "French & Way 99 and 101 Market,"[2] while the members of the firm are listed as: "French, Wm Cabinet maker 148 King,[3] and no residence at all is listed for Way, though this may have been because he lived outside the town.

[1] *American Watchman*, Nov. 20, 1813.
[2] Robert Porter, *Directory of the Borough of Wilmington and Brandywine Village, 1814.*
[3] *Ibid.*

FRANCIS McMULLIN GARDNER

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working c. 1798-1801*

In the Wilmington Borough Minutes for the year 1800 is the entry: '1800, 6 mo., 18 . . . Francis McMullin Gardiner [*sic.*]—By his acct for

the Book case & Chest of Bottles—$20." [1] This is the only furniture I have found thus far, but for tax purposes, c. 1798, he is listed as having real and personal property valued at $1024.10. He possessed at that time 85 acres of land in Christiana Hundred, 78 of which were improved, a "Stone House, Frame Barn & other Building in state of Improving," livestock to the number of 183, one slave valued at $50, and 28 ounces of silver valued at $31.10.[2]

His will was written in his thirty-first year, a few months before his death. The heirs were his brother John, to whom he left real estate in Kent County, Del., called "Long Reach and Dundee," which he was to receive when he came of age; his sister Martha McMullin, was to receive 1500 £ upon the sale of his local real estate; his nephew James McMullin Gardner Goldsborough, 300 £ when he came of age; and a "negro man Norris, now my servant to be manumitted immediately upon his arrival at age." Norris was to receive his wearing apparel, to be put in "mourning cloathes" and to have "the watch he now wears, bedding, and 20 dollars." [3]

[1] Wilmington Borough Treasurer's Report, June 18, 1800 (Delaware State Archives, Dover), Vol. for 1791-1801.

[2] Robert Armstrong (Comp.), New Castle County Tax Lists, Christiana Hundred, c. 1798 (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington).

[3] New Castle County Register of Wills, Wilmington, Book P, I, 6.

JOSEPH W. GLATS

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Glats is listed as a cabinetmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* and his address is given as 97 Shipley Street.

WILLIAM GLAUSE

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1797*

"Know all men by these presents that I William Glause of the Borough of Wilmington, County of New Castle & in the State of Delaware, Chairmaker Am held and firmly bound unto Elis Newlin & Joseph Newlin both of the said Borough Marchants, in the sum of three Hundred pounds good and Lawful money of said State. . . ." [1]

This bond is dated July 15, 1797.

[1] New Castle County Deeds (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.)

CHARLES G. GLAZIER

binetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Glazier is listed in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for e Year 1857* as a cabinetmaker and his address is given as 9 East Fourth reet.

JOHN GORDON

Shop Joyner" *Dover* *Working in 1764*

By an indenture listed in Kent County Indentures, 1764, and signed ne 16 of that year, John Gordon, "Shop Joyner" of Dover, took ichard Hardin (*q. v.*) as apprentice in his cabinetmaking shop.

THOMAS GRAHAM

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Graham is listed in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for e Year 1845* as a cabinetmaker, and his address is given as being on ipley Street between Eighth and Ninth.

THOMAS GREGG

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1815*

Gregg is known from his partnership with Dell Noblett in 1815.[1] As oblett advertised that he would continue the cabinetmaking business on dissolution of the partnership, I cannot say if Gregg remained business at another location or moved to another city. His place of siness in the partnership was on the southwest corner of Sixth and arket Streets.

[1] Notice of dissolution of partnership, *American Watchman*, August 12, 1815.

CHARLES D. GROOME

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1853*

Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, page 152, printed this advertisement:

> CHARLES D. GROOME [cut of Victorian sofa] Manufacturer of all kinds of CABINET WARE, UNDERTAKING PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO, Corner of Second & Orange Streets WILMINGTON, DELAWARE.

DAVID GROSSMAN

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Grossman is listed as a cabinetmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* and his address is given as "Sharp's Hotel."

SIMON GUTHRIE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Guthrie is listed as a cabinetmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*. His address is given as 10 Wilson Street.

PURNELL HALL

Cabinetmaker *Milford* *Working in 1853(?)*

J. Thomas Scharf in *History of Delaware, 1609-1888* (Philadelphia, 1888), II, 1193, says that Purnell Hall, "a farmer and cabinet-maker," married Ann Millechop.

JOHN HANDY

Joiner *Northwest Fork Hundred* *Working in 1789-1795*

"John Handy, Joiner," is listed in the Northwest Fork Hundred, Sussex County tax lists for the years 1789, 1790, 1791 and 1795.

TIMOTHY HANSON

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working before 1798*

In his will made September 6, 1798 and proved November 16 of that ar, Timothy Hanson mentions his wife and children and also some his fellow craftsmen who served as witnesses, namely, John White, binetmaker, and Joseph Warner, silversmith.[1]

Timothy Hanson, the grandson of Timothy and the son of Samuel, th of Little Creek, was a member of the Wilmington Society of Friends d was active in 1787 and 1788 buying oak, pine, poplar, and cedar. the former year he made and trimmed a bonnet, probably for a clock, perhaps a highboy, for £1.5*s*.10*d*.[1,2]

[1] New Castle County Register of Wills (Wilmington).
[2] Marie Windell, "News Notes," *Delaware History*, VI, 163.

HATTON M. HANUM

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Hanum is listed as a cabinetmaker in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington ity Directory for the Year 1857* and his address is given as 21 West ourth Street.

RICHARD HARDIN

abinetmaker's Apprentice *Dover* *Apprenticed in 1764*

This Indenture Witnesseth that Caesar Rodney And Charles Ridgely Esquires, Justices of the peace for Kent County on Delaware, And Vincent Loockerman Overseer of the poor of Murderkil hundred in the County afs[d]: hath put, and by these presents, and by Virtue of an Act of Assembly of this government, Doth put Richard Hardin/a poor boy of this County and Son of Martin Hardin of the County of Kent afs[d]/an Apprentice, to John Gordon Shop Joyner of the town of Dover & County afs[d]: and his assigns, to learn the art, trade and mistery of a Shop Joyner, and after the Manner of Apprentice to Serve him his said Master from the Date hereof for and During the term of two years and five months being Then of the age of twenty one years, During Which term The Said apprentice his said Master faith-

fully Shall Serve his secrets keep, & his Lawful Commands obey, he shall doe no Damage to his said master nor see it Done by others, Without giving notice thereof to his said master, he shall not Commit fornication nor Contract matrimony he shall not play at Cards, Dice, or any other unlawful Games within the said term by which his master may have damage, he Shall not absent himself by Day, or Night from his Said Masters Service, Without his leave first had & Obtained, but in all things behave himself as a faithfull Apprentice ought to Do, During the term afs^{d}: And the Said Master Shall use the utmost of his endeavour to Teach, or Cause to be taught, or instructed, the said Apprentice in the trade and mistery of a Shop Joyner, which he the said master now followeth, And to provide and procure for him the said apprentice Sufficient Meat, Drink, Washing, lodging, and Wearing apparel, fitting for an Apprentice during the term afs^{d}: And the said John Gordon for himself and his assigns Doth further Covenant to and With the said Caesar Rodney & Charles Ridgely Justices afs^{d}: and Vincent Loockerman Overseer of the poor of the hundred and County afs^{d}: for and on the part And behalf of the said Richard Hardin the said apprentice That he the said John Gordon, Will give him the said apprentice two months of schooling in the said term. And at the end of Said apprenticeship to give him a new Suit of Cloths—beside his Working Cloths,as also as many tools Suitable for his trade as shall be worth five pounds, Current money of this Government, and the Sum of Ten pounds—Current money of the Government afs^{d}: And for the performance of all and Everry of the Covenants and agreements afs^{d}: the said parties bind them selves Each to the other by these presents. In Witness thereof they have Set their hands, and Seals this fifteenth Day of June in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty four—1764.[1]

Jn^{o} Caton
John Myor

Caesar Rodney
Charles Ridgely
Vincent Loockerman
John Gordon

[1] Kent County Indentures, 1764.

SAMUEL HARKER

hairmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1814*

See CHESNUT & HARKER.

JACOB HARMAN

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845, 1853, and 1857 Directories*

In 1837 Jacob Harman took James McAdams as apprentice.[1] He is sted as a cabinetmaker in Wilmington city directories from 1845 to 857.

[1] James McAdams, Apprentice Indentures, 1837, V, 234.

JOSEPH N. HARMAN

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Harman is listed in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for he Year 1857* as living at 69 King Street.

J. & J. N. HARMAN

abinetmakers *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* lists & J. N. Harman, and gives their business address as 84 King Street. See JACOB HARMAN and JOSEPH N. HARMAN).

JAMES HEATH

abinetmaker's Apprentice *Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa)* *Absconded in 1794*

STOP THE RUNAWAY. Ran-Away from the Subscriber, at Cantwell's Bridge, Newcastle County, on Thursday the 30th day of October last, an Apprentice—lad named James Heath, by trade a Cabinet-Maker, near 21 years of age: He is about 5 feet

6 or 7 inches high, pretty stout made, of a swarthy complexion; brown hair, (which he generally wears tied or queu'd) but sometimes loose, when it appears very bushy and curly; has a remarkable grim looking countenance, and seldom laughs or smiles; speaks low, and has a kind of tremor in his nerves, which may be easily discovered, when about any work that requires a steady hand: had on when he absented, a blue broad cloth coat, with yellow buttons, almost new; a roram hat, with a deep crown; a pair of striped trowsers; his other clothes unknown. Whoever takes up, and secures said Apprentice in any goal of the United States, so that his master may have him again, shall receive the reward of One Cent for their trouble, but no other costs or charges.

A handsome reward would have been offered, but for the following reason: viz. The term of his apprenticeship will expire on the 18th day of March next, and he is of a remarkable sullen disposition, which gives me reason to think, that if he should be brought home, he will elope again, and run me to further trouble and expence; therefore have thought proper to offer so small a reward—but am determined to prosecute him to the utmost, whenever an opportunity offers—as he was very useful in my shop, and the short time he had to stay very valuable to me. John Janvier, Cabinet-maker, Cantwell's Bridge, December 2, 1794. N. B. It is suspected that he is gone to Baltimore, in order to proceed to sea, as he has been heard to express an intention of that kind: therefore, all masters of vessels, and others, are forbid to harbor or carry him off, at their peril.[1]

Heath does not appear later as a cabinet maker working in either Baltimore, Philadelphia, or Delaware, so he may have found a captain to take him on as seaman, this notice notwithstanding.

[1] *The Delaware and Eastern Shore Advertiser*, December 10, 1794.

MICHAEL HENGOR

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1853 and 1857 Directories***

Michael Hengor (Hinger), cabinetmaker, is listed in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* as living at 107 Lombard Street. He is also listed at this address in the *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* compiled by Joshua Heald.

Photo by Sanborn.

Crow Tall Case Clock

Superb mahogany tall case clock, works by Thomas Crow of Wilmington. Case possibly made by a Wilmington cabinetmaker despite its resemblance to the work of the Philadelphia master craftsman, Thomas Affleck. One of the finest American clock cases. This clock stood for over half a century in the front hall of the Starr house at 1310 King Street, Wilmington. It was acquired by the writer for the late J. Kenneth Danby's Delaware furniture collection and placed in the Historical Society of Delaware, where it remains due to the kindness of Mr. H. Gregg Danby.

Photo by Goode.

WHITELOCK CLOCK CASE

Labeled Hepplewhite clock case made by George Whitelock, Wilmington. Author's collection.

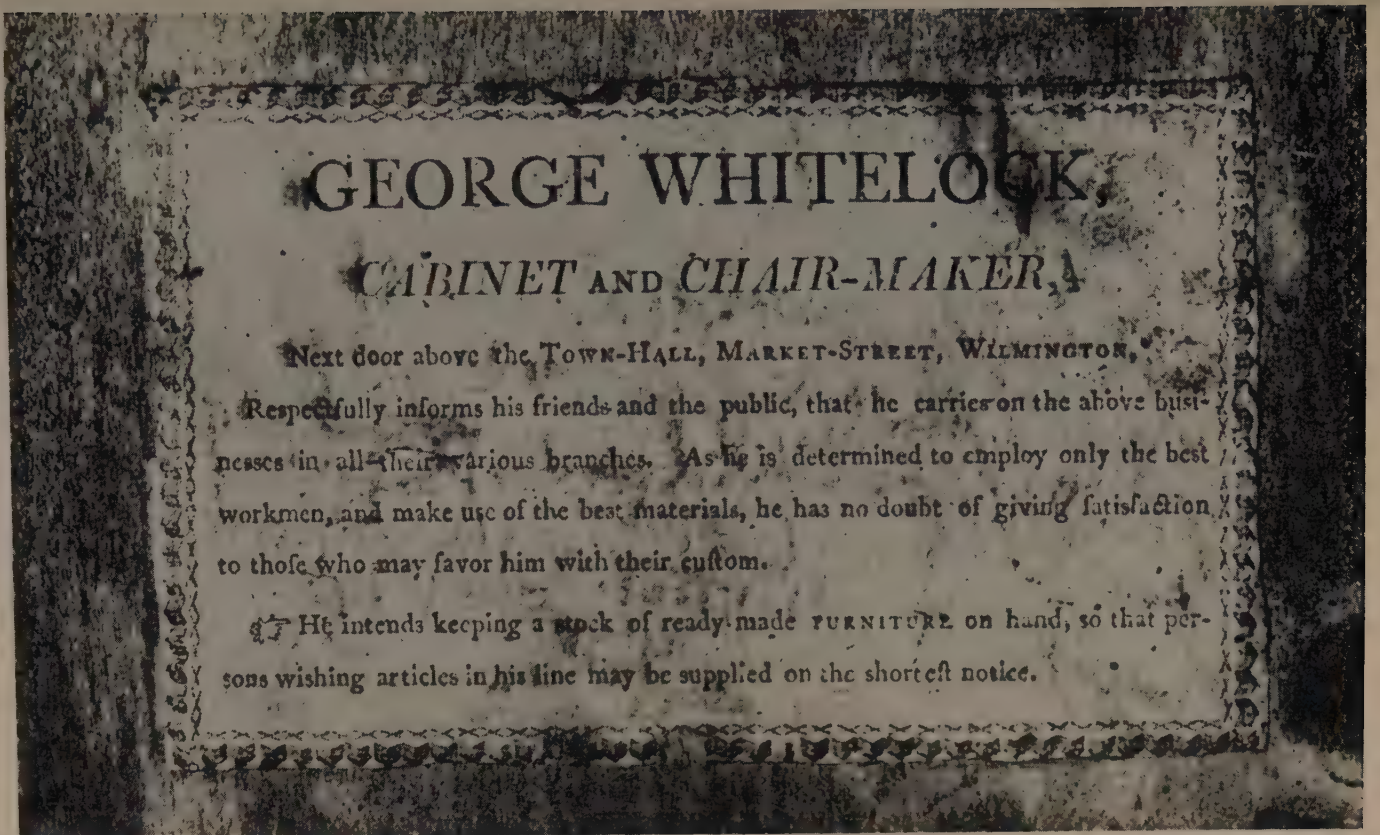

GEORGE WHITELOCK,
CABINET AND CHAIR-MAKER,
Next door above the TOWN-HALL, MARKET-STREET, WILMINGTON,
Respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he carries on the above businesses in all their various branches. As he is determined to employ only the best workmen, and make use of the best materials, he has no doubt of giving satisfaction to those who may favor him with their custom.
☞ He intends keeping a stock of ready-made FURNITURE on hand, so that persons wishing articles in his line may be supplied on the shortest notice.

Photo by Goode.

CLOCK CASE LABEL

Label of George Whitelock in clock case. Author's collection.

Photo by Sanborn.

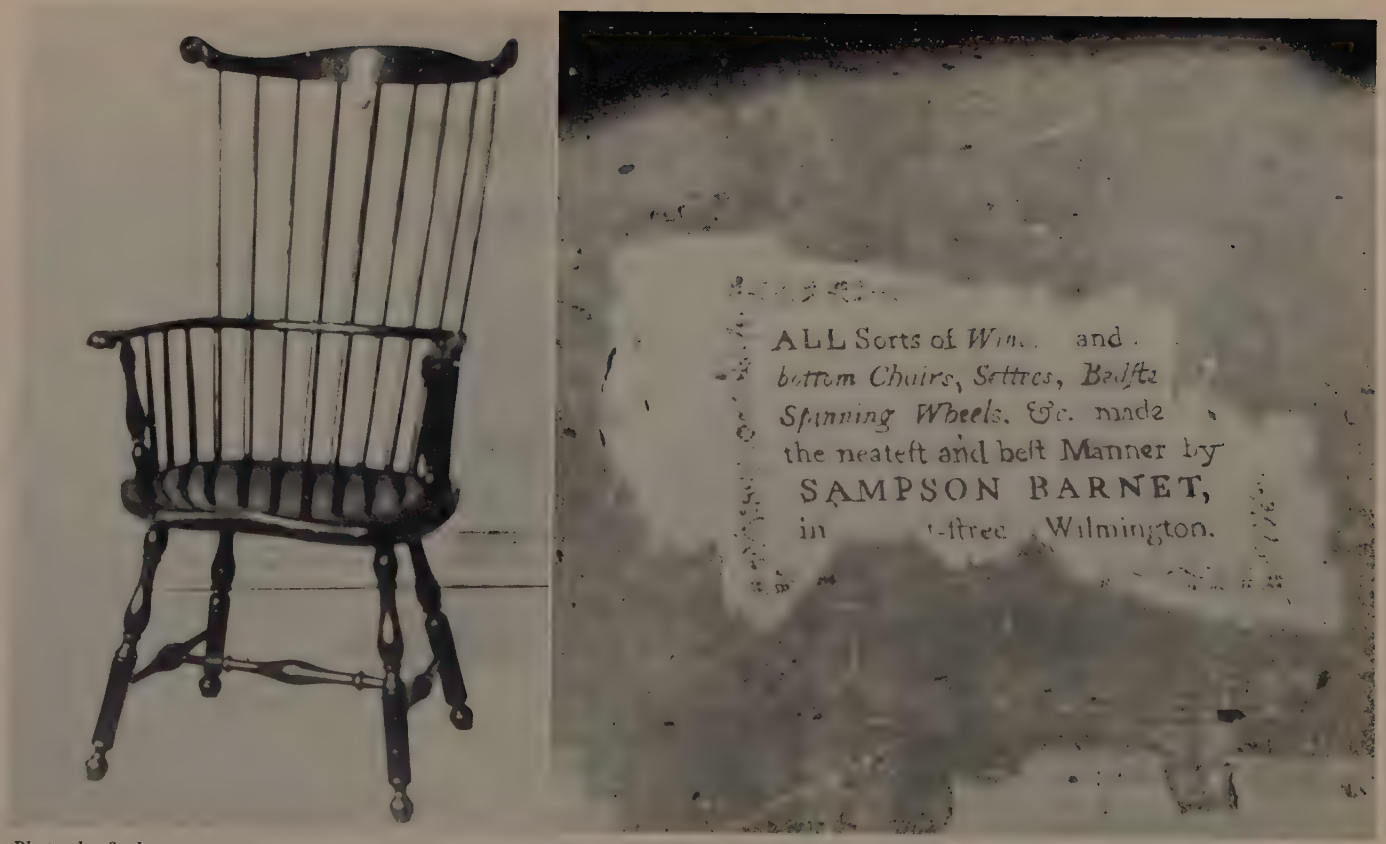
Whitelock Sideboard I

Hepplewhite-Sheraton sideboard of mahogany, inlaid, with secondary woods of poplar and white pine. This sideboard contains two labels of George Whitelock. Collection of the Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

Photo by courtesy of Delaware State Archives Commission.

WHITELOCK SIDEBOARD II

Hepplewhite, mahogany inlaid sideboard having two labels of George Whitelock, Wilmington, c. 1810. Collection of Mrs. W. Watson Harrington, Dover.



Photos by Sanborn.

BARNET ARMCHAIR AND LABEL

Sampson Barnet Windsor armchair with brand and label, c. 1785. Danby collection, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

Photos by Sanborn.

McKinly Master's and Side Chair

(Right), superlative mahogany master's chair from set owned by Governor McKinly. (Left), Queen Anne style walnut side chair also owned by Governor McKinly. Both possibly made in Wilmington and now in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

Photo by Waller.

Bacon Armchair

Turned armchair of pine with rush seat made by Dudson Bacon, "turner" of Sussex County. Owned by his descendants, Mrs. J. Wheeler Campbell and Miss May Kenney, Laurel.

JANVIER CHAIR

Chippendale style "elbow chair" attributed to John Janvier, Sr., of Cantwell's Bridge. Delaware Room, National Museum, Daughters of American Revolution, Washington, D. C.

Janvier Chest

Mahogany chest of drawers, transitional Chippendale-Hepplewhite. Signed and dated twice "Peregrine Janvier, 1801"; has pressure brand "P I" on bottom drawer. In collection of Mr. and Mrs. Allyn Cooch, Newark, Delaware.

oto by Sanborn.

STARR CHEST

Locally made walnut high chest originally owned by the Starr family of Wilm-
gton. Now in the collection of Mr. and Mrs. James Calhoun, Elsmere, Delaware.

Photos by Sanborn.

John White Chest and Label

Chippendale mahogany chest of drawers containing the pictured label of John White, joiner, Wilmington, 1791. Made for the Brynberg family of Wilmington and until recently in the hands of descendants. Now in the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Frederick of New Castle County.

Photo by Sanborn.

Signed McDowell Chest

Sheraton walnut chest of drawers after restoration. Shows unusual foot construction. The stiles, or corner supporting members, were twice their present thickness initially. The stile was placed on a lathe and the foot turned. Then the stile, including the turned foot, was sawed in half, and the half foot cut from its half stile and glued to the other. Chest is signed by James McDowell, cabinetmaker, and by William, his son and apprentice. Author's collection.

Photos by Sanborn.

McDowell Chest and Signature

(Below), mahogany Sheraton bow front chest-of-drawers with line inlay on drawer and chamfered corners. "Terrapin" escutcheons on drawer fronts distinctive of the work of the McDowell-Stevenson family group of cabinetmakers for this period, c. 1800-1805. Original oval brasses. Beautifully inscribed on bottom of second drawer: "Made by James McDowell, Cabinet Maker, Duck Creek Cross Roads, Delaware." Collection of the Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington. (Above), label of James McDowell

Photo by Sanborn.

McDowell Table

Mahogany dining table believed to have been made by Daniel McDowell of Smyrna for Thomas Jefferson of Kent County, Delaware. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hargadine, New Castle.

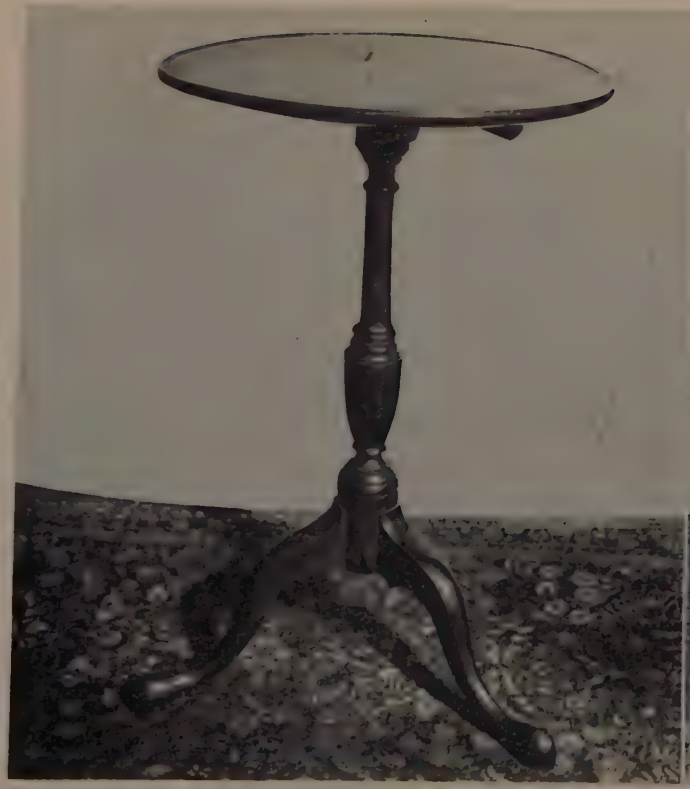


Photo by Sanborn.

STARR CANDLESTAND

Locally made mahogany candlestand originally owned by the Starr family of Wilmington. Now in the collection of Mr. and Mrs. James Calhoun, Elsmere, Delaware.

Photo by Waller.

CAMPBELL TABLE

Turned leg table frame made of Sussex County swamp cypress and found in that area. c. 1700-1720. Top and gates restored. Collection of Mrs. J. Wheeler Campbell, Laurel.

Photo by Sanborn.

Mahogany Card Table

Mahogany card table with holly inlay. Made in Wilmington by unknown cabinetmaker. Author's collection.

Photo by Sanborn.

Hollingsworth Candlestand

Candlestand in walnut made for the Hollingsworth family of Brandywine Hundred, c. 1805. Author's collection.

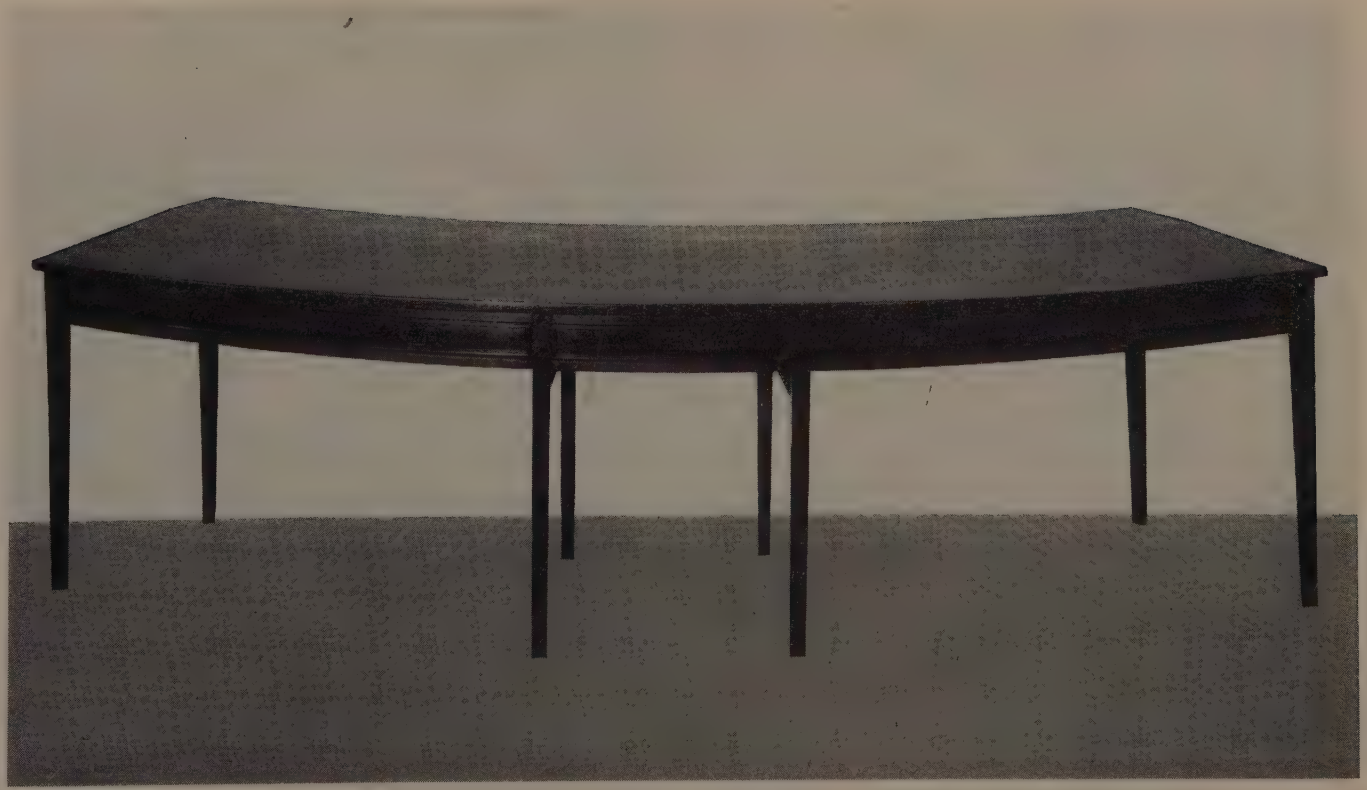


Photo by Sanborn.

WHITE BURGESSES TABLE

Pine burgesses table stained mahogany. Made for the Philosophical Society of Delaware in 1800 by John White. Collection of the Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

Photo by Sanborn.

Alrichs Mirror

Looking-glass with fine bolection molding frame. Walnut and oak construction. Name "D. Alrichs" gouged on rear panel. Unbroken Delaware ownership. Presented by a descendant of original owner to Historical Society of Delaware. New Castle, Delaware, c. 1680-1710. Original straight bevel glass.

Photo by courtesy of the Delaware Public Archives Commission.

Mahogany Knife Box

Mahogany knife box made large to stand in center of a sideboard. Silver mounts bear touches of Joseph Warner, Wilmington silversmith, c. 1785. Gift of Mrs. Paul J. Franklin to the Dickinson Mansion, Dover.

Photo by Sanborn.

Charles Trute Pianoforte

Pianoforte by "Charles Trute, Maker, Wilmington, Delaware." Case of mahogany and satinwood, c. 1795. Present supporting frame an Empire period replacement. Presented to the Historical Society of Delaware by the late Mrs. Ernest Hall.

Photo by Waller.

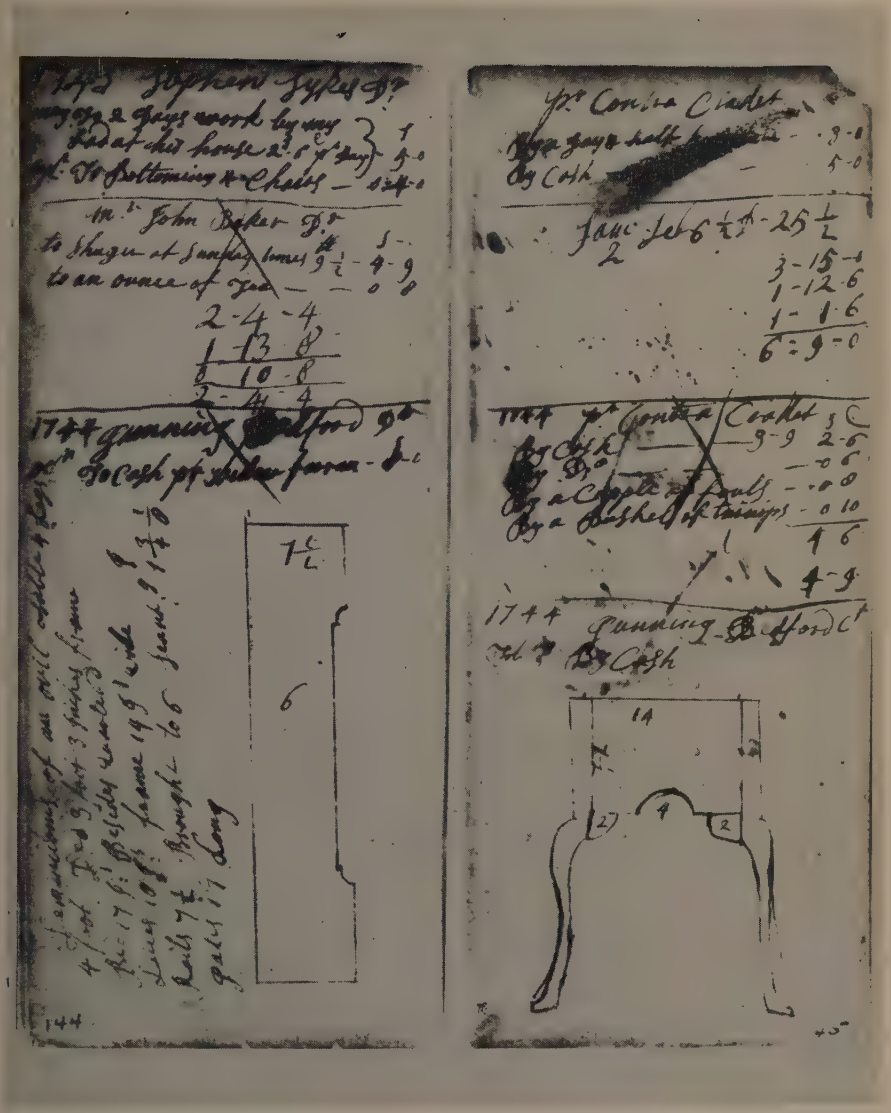
Ralph Corner Cupboard

Highly individualistic corner cupboard made of cypress, gumwood and poplar by Thomas Ralph, joiner, of Sussex County. In the collection of Mrs. J. Wheeler Campbell and Miss May Kenney, Laurel.

Photo by Sanborn.

Byrnes Secretary Desk

Walnut secretary desk made in Wilmington in 1771 by Caleb Byrnes; presented to the Historical Society of Delaware by a descendant.



Williams Account Book Drawings

Drawings in account book of John Williams, New Castle cabinetmaker. Left, apron of a gate leg table; right, side view of Queen Anne dressing table. Collection of Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

Photo by Sanborn of original in HSD.

Dell Noblett

Dell Noblett (Del Noblit), 1777-1878. Wilmington cabinetmaker, work c. 1810-1844. Photo taken on his one-hundredth birthday.

ROBERT HICKMAN

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* ys that Hickman "boards at 79 French St."

WILLIAM HITZEL

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* lists itzel as living on the northeast corner of Fourth and Pine Streets.

ABRAHAM HOOPES

hairmaker's Apprentice *Wilmington* *Working in 1795*

One Hundred Cents Reward. Absconded from his master, some time since, an apprentice lad, named Abraham Hoops [*sic*] son of Isaac Hoops, near the forks of Brandywine, in Pennsylvania State, between 19 and 20 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, pretty well made; clothes at present unknown; He has served some time to the chair making business, in Wilmington, with his master the subscriber. Whoever takes up and secures said apprentice, so that his master may get him again, shall be entitled to the above reward if brought home, and no charges, Sampson Barnet. Wilmington, 7th mo. 10th 1795. N. B. All persons are forbid to harbour said lad, at their peril.[1]

[1] *Delaware Gazette* (Wilmington), Aug. 15, 1795.

JOSIAH JANNET

urner *Wilmington* *Working in 1798*

Jannet is listed in the tax list compiled about 1798 by Robert Armrong, tax collector, for Christiana Hundred as "Josiah Jannet a urner."[1]

[1] Robert Armstrong (Comp.), New Castle County Tax Lists, Christiana Hundred, 1798 (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington).

JOHN JANVIER, SR.

Cabinetmaker — *Head of Elk (Elkton)* — *Working c. 1770-180*
Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa) — *b. 1749, d. 1801*

John Janvier, Sr., Philadelphia-trained cabinet and chairmaker, place the following label inside a clock case he had made at his shop at Hea of Elk (Elkton, Maryland) to contain a fine clock made by Benjami Chandlee, Jr., of nearby Nottingham:

> ADVERTISEMENT, JOHN JANVIER, CABINET and CHAIR-MAKER, from PHILADELPHIA, TAKES this method to inform the public, that he carries on the Joiner's business, in all its various branches, at the head of Elk, in Cecil County, Maryland, in the shop which Caleb Ricketts [1] formerly occupied, where he makes and sells all sorts of Joiner's work, in the neatest and best manner, and the newest fashions; such as, desks of various sorts, chests of drawers; card, dining, chamber, Pembroke, and tea tables, &c. parlour, easy, and elbow chairs, &c. clock-cases, couches, bedsteads, and many other pieces of furniture, too tedious to mention; all which he will engage to be equal in neatness and strength to Philadelphia work; he therefore hopes, that he will meet with suitable encouragement in his business, as he intends to make it his study to give the greatest satisfaction that lays in his power, to all those who will please to favor him with their custom. He likewise intends to keep a general assortment of screw, sprigs, nails, locks, hinges, &c. such as are necessary in the Joiner's trade, and which he intends to sell as low as possible, for cash only. PHILADELPHIA: Printed by JOHN DUNLAP at the Newest Printing Office, in Market-Street.[2]

Many Delaware records of the colonial period, particularly for Ne Castle County, have been lost, and many of these as a result of th Revolution itself. John Janvier was for many years a member of th Old Drawyers Presbyterian congregation near Odessa, but he does n appear on the 1769 subscription list [3] made before the construction the fine Georgian colonial meeting house which still stands on its hi above Drawyers Creek. This omission may be because the pages co taining the names of forty subscribers are missing, but it is most like due to Janvier being in residence at the time at Head of Elk. He appea in the tax lists for St. Georges Hundred regularly from 1777 until h

death in 1801.[4] Little is known of his Philadelphia apprenticeship, his first shop at Head of Elk, and the exact date that he returned to Cantwell's Bridge and built a house and adjoining cabinetmaker's shop. Caleb Ricketts, whom Janvier had succeeded at Head of Elk, was living in that village in October, 1765, when he is described as "joiner,"[5] but by January, 1772, he had removed to Chestertown.[6] Research indicates that the Janvier label was printed between the years 1767 and 1771.[7]

The Janvier family Bible gives the birthdate of John Janvier, Jr., (*q. v.*) as January 16, 1777.[8] This date poses another problem: is the illustrated ledger of John Janvier[9] that of seventeen year old John, Jr., who would not have finished his apprenticeship for four more years, or is the elaborate work listed therein the work of master craftsman, John, Sr. I believe it to be the ledger of the senior Janvier and the references to boarding and to the Philadelphia cabinetmaker Daniel Trotter must be from a jobbing sojourn in Philadelphia during a slack time at Cantwell's Bridge.[10]

The labeled clock case resembles so many clock cases containing works made by Duncan Beard of Appoquinimink, who was Delaware's greatest clockmaker, that upon comparison it is easy to attribute many unlabeled cases to Janvier. Since Beard's clockmaker's shop and home was just one mile east of the Janvier house and shop, and they were members of the same church (Old Drawyers) it is entirely possible that most of the Duncan Beard clocks sold locally were appropriately cased by John Janvier, Sr.

[1] Lease for "a tract of land at Head of Elk called "Friendship" made October 12, 1765, between "Robt. Alexander of Baltimore Town of the one part and Caleb Ricketts of Cecil County, Joiner, of the other . . ." is listed in Cecil County Land Records, No. 9218, Liber F. K., No. 2 (Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis).

[2] Tall case clock owned by David Stockwell, Wilmington.

[3] George Foot, *An Address, embracing the Early History of Delaware, and the Settlement of its Boundaries, and of the Old Drawyers Congregation . . .* (Philadelphia, 1842), p. 37-41.

[4] Tax Assessment Lists, St. Georges Hundred, New Castle County.

[5] See footnote 1.

[6] "Caleb Ricketts of Chester Town in Kent County in the province of Maryland, house Carpenter of the one part and Thomas May of Cecil County, Iron Master, and John Roberts of Philadelphia, Miller. . . ." Cecil County Land Records, No. 9220, Liber B. Y., No. 2 (Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis).

[7] *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, John Dunlap biographical sketch.

[8] Leon deValinger, Jr., "John Janvier, Delaware Cabinetmaker," *Antiques*, January, 1942, p. 37-39.

[9] Ms. in collection of the Delaware State Archives, Dover.

[10] *Ibid.*

JOHN JANVIER, JR.

Cabinetmaker *Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa)* *Working 1798-185*
b. January 16, 177
d. April 23, 1850

The pioneer work on John Janvier, Jr., has been done by Leo deValinger, Jr.,[1] Delaware State Archivist, and from his article we fin that Janvier married Anne Jane Wiley in 1807 and that they had th following children: Ann, John III, Robert, Francis, and George. John Sr., died in 1801,[2] at which time John and his brother Peregrine (*q. v.* used the family cabinetshop adjoining the homestead. The Janvie house still stands on the south side of Odessa's Main Street, not far fro the well-known Corbit and Wilson houses. The shop, to the west of th house, was torn down to make way for a Presbyterian church in 1858 Almost a century later the vacated church was sold and demolished, t be replaced by a church of modified colonial style erected by Odess Methodists. An opportunity to restore the cabinetshop on its origina site was lost, though the community gained an attractive church buildin

John Janvier, Jr., carried on a very active business as town cabine maker and undertaker, and from 1820 to 1844 he was also a Justice o the Peace for New Castle County.[4] During such a long career he mu have had a number of apprentices but deValinger mentions only on Levi Scott, who began a five-year apprenticeship in 1819, but later becam Methodist bishop of Delaware.[5] I have found only one apprentic William Ponger, who commenced serving his time with Janvier in 1835

Two sons, John III and George, became Presbyterian ministers[7] an I do not find that Robert and Francis became cabinetmakers, so we ca assume that the Janvier cabinetmaking tradition ended with John, Jr. death in 1850.

Duncan Beard the clockmaker died in the middle of the year 1797 six months before John, Jr., would have completed his apprenticeshi providing his father made him serve the usual time, that is, until h twenty-first birthday on January 16, 1798. Thus, all Janvier-made cloc cases for Beard clocks must be the work of John, Sr.

Janvier descendants in New Castle County and elsewhere have i herited furniture made by their cabinetmaker ancestors.[9] Some of thes are signed and dated; others are identified by family descent and traditio

[1] Leon deValinger, "John Janvier, Delaware Cabinetmaker," *Antiques*, Januar 1942, p. 37-42.

[2] George Foot, *An Address, embracing the Early History of Delaware, and t*

ettlement of its boundaries, and of the Old Drawyers Congregation . . . (Philadelphia, 1842), p. 31.

[3] Frank R. Zebley, *The Churches of Delaware* (Wilmington, 1947), p. 188.

[4] deValinger, *op. cit.*

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] Kent County Indentures, 1835, IV, 309.

[7] George Foot, *op. cit.*, pp. 58, 59.

[8] Jessie Harrington, *Silversmiths of Delaware, 1700 to 1850* (National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Delaware, 1939), p. 25.

[9] deValinger, *op. cit.*

JOSEPH JANVIER

Chairmaker *White Clay Creek Hundred* *Working in 1786*

"Joseph Janvier of White Clay Creek Hundred, Chairmaker . . ." [1] is mentioned in a 1786 New Castle County deed.

[1] Deed Book G (New Castle County Recorder of Deeds Office, Wilmington), I, 130.

PEREGRINE JANVIER

Cabinetmaker *Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa)* *Working 1802-c. 1850*
b. Sept. 26, 1781,
d. 1863 or 1865

Peregrine Janvier, brother of John Janvier, Jr., has left little documentary evidence of his residence in Cantwell's Bridge, but he did, fortunately for this latter day, sign a fine chest of drawers. This piece, of mahogany, in the Chippendale style, having four drawers, quarter columns and ogee feet, is not only notable for its craftsmanship, it is exceptional as well in that its two inscriptions represent a progressive documentation. On the bottom of the case, the first part to be finished, is the inscription in ink: "Made By Peregrine Janvier—Appoquinimink —July 1804." Scratched on the under part of a drawer is the inscription: "Made August 1804 / By Peregrine Janvier / Appoquinimink / for / Mr. David Wilson."

David Wilson, of Cantwell's Bridge, builder of the first notable Georgian house in the village (1769), ordered this chest many years after he had completed his home. Its style may be as much the desire of Mr. Wilson to match the furniture already in the upper rooms of his house, as it is evidence of a lag in style one would expect in an out-of-the-way community.

The chest of drawers is in the collection of Mrs. W. Watson Harrington of Dover, Delaware.

THOMAS JANVIER

Carpenter *New Castle County* *Working in 1695*

Apparently "Thomas Janvier, carpenter, by birth [a] Frenchman" was the first of a long line of Delaware carpenters-joiners-cabinetmakers in this family. He was granted citizenship in New Castle County by Governor William Markham on Feb. 21, 1695.[1]

[1] Pennsylvania Archives (Philadelphia, 1852), I, 118.

AMOR JEFFERIS

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1804*

> Amor Jefferis, respectfully informs his friends and the public in general, that he continues to carry on the Cabinet making business in all its branches, at his shop in Market Street, Wilmington, where he also carries on all kinds [of] turning business. Those who please to favor him with their commands, may depend on his attention thereto, and that they shall be faithfully served, on moderate terms. Wilmington, March 2d, 1805.[1]

[1] *The Mirror of the Times & General Advertiser*, March 2, 1805.

BRAZILLA JEFFERIS

Turner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Jefferis' address is given in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* as being on Shipley between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

THOMAS JEFFERS

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1786*

Thomas Jeffers, cabinetmaker of Wilmington, sold a lot in the Borough to Isaac Kendall, "Taylor," on Feb. 10, 1786.[1]

[1] Deed, Jeffers to Kendall, 1786, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

SAMUEL JOBSON

ourneyman Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working c. 1758-c. 1765*

Benjamin Ferris, son of the cabinetmaker Ziba Ferris, Sr., and himlf a clockmaker and antiquarian, tells of his father's friend Samuel obson, journeyman cabinetmaker, as follows:

> It gives me pleasure to record an anecdote relating to my father which was related to me by a worthy old Friend whose name was Samuel Jobson—On meeting him in the Street of Philadelphia about the year 1810 he inquired my name and on being informed, he asked if I was any ways related to Ziba Ferris of Wilmington who served his time with Henry Troth—On my answering that I was his son, he remarked as nearly as I can recollect as follows "Well, during thy Father's apprenticeship I worked as a journeyman with Henry Troth. . . ." [1]

[1] Benjamin Ferris, "My Kith and Kin" (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, ilmington), p. 36.

JAMES JOHNSON

abinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working 1805-c. 1813*

> JAMES JOHNSON CABINETMAKER, Carries on his business in Third-Street, a few doors South of Market-Street near Mrs. Huggin's Tavern. BUREAUS, DESKS, BOOK-CASES, SIDE-BOARDS, BEDSTEADS and every other article in his line made of the very best materials, and the most fashionable stile. The durability of his workmanship will be tested upon trial. He solicits a share of public patronage, & in return thanks for past favors. Aug. 2.[1]

By August, 1809, he had ceased to be part of the firm of Johnson and rench (*q. v.*) and had set up business by himself. In this advertisement e shows a mariner's awareness of compass directions but they do not rrespond to the usual designation used in Wilmington today. Apparntly his shop was on the south side of Third Street a few doors east Market.

[1] *American Watchman* and *Delaware Republican*, Aug. 2, 1809.

JOHNSON AND FRENCH

Cabinetmakers *Wilmington* *First advertisement, 180*

Cabinet Work and Upholstering Business. Johnson and French, at their shop near the lower end of Market Street, execute, all kinds of Cabinet and Upholstering work, in a neat manner and on reasonable terms. They return thanks for past favors, and respectfully inform their friends and the public that all orders in the line of their business shall be punctually attended to and executed with fidelity. Wilmington, April 10.[1]

[1] *Mirror of the Times & General Advertiser* (Wilmington), April 10, 1805.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON

Joiner, Carpenter *Mill Creek Hundred* *Tax list, 1777-178*

In 1777 William Johnston is listed as a joiner, while in 1780 he called by another assessor "carpenter." He is listed as joiner in 17 when his tax was £4. In 1778 his tax was £7, in 1780 the same amoun and in 1787 £4.[1]

[1] New Castle County Tax Lists, Mill Creek Hundred.

CLEMENT JONES

Cabinetmaker's Apprentice *Mispillion Hundred* *Apprenticed in 18*

On January 28, 1828, "Clement Jones of Mispillion hd. By and wi The Consent of his Mother Charlotta West binds himself apprentice James Starr of Milford for the term of four years three months and days or until he shall reach 21 years of age. To be a Cabinet maker. . . ."

[1] Clement Jones, Kent County Indentures.

WILLIAM G. JONES

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working 1807 to after 18*

William G. Jones Respectfully informs his friends and the public in general, that he has commenced the Cabinet-Making

business, in all its various branches, at the corner of Front and Shipley streets, where those who are pleased to favor him with their custom may expect their work executed in the best manner; and he trusts his unremitting attention to his business will enable him to give general satisfaction to his customers and entitle him to a share of the favors of a generous public.[1]

Jones is listed in the first City Directory in 1814[2] and was still in business when the second Directory was published in 1845.[3] Scharf refers to him as "the leading undertaker and cabinetmaker of half a century ago.[4]

[1] *The Museum of Delaware & General Advertiser*, Nov. 28, 1807.
[2] Robert Porter, *A Directory of the Borough of Wilmington and Brandywine Village, 1814*, p. 22.
[3] Lewis Wilson (Comp.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* (Wilmington: Porter & Naff), p. 31.
[4] J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Delaware, 1609-1888* (Philadelphia, 1888), II, 651.

WILLIAM JONES

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1853 Directory***

Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* gives Jones' address as 12 West Fifth Street.

JESPER JUSTIS

Joiner ***Wilmington*** ***Working in 1752***

Justis is listed as a joiner or cabinetmaker in the 1752-54 census of communicants of Old Swedes Church, Wilmington.[1] The original list, in Swedish, is in the church archives in Upsala, Sweden.

[1] Marie Windell, "News Notes," *Delaware History*, VII, 171.

GEORGE KATES, JR.

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Working 1838-c. 1850***

George Kates, Jr., born June 23, 1817, was apprenticed to John Sebo (*q. v.*) by his father George Kates of Pennsylvania, August 6, 1833.[1] George is listed in the Wilmington City Directory for 1845 as a cabinetmaker working at 26 Market Street. He is not listed in the 1853 Directory.

[1] Apprentice Indentures, George Kates, Jr., August 6, 1853.

SETH KING AND W. MATTHEWS

Chairmakers *Dover* *Working in 1824*

"A small chair and paint shop occupied by Seth King and W. Matthews [King Street, Dover]," is mentioned by George Purnell Fisher in "Recollections of Dover in 1824," *Papers of the Historical Society of Delaware* (Wilmington, 1896), p. 14.

GEORGE BURDEN KINKEAD

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working 1843-1859*
b. November 19, 1822,
d. May 3, 1864

The following information on George Burden Kinkead is taken entirely from Miss Jeannette Eckman's research on the Kinkead family.

> George Burden Kinkead, . . . born in Elkton, November 19, 1822, became a craftsman like his father and grandfather Kinkead, and like his father when still a very young man, established himself at Wilmington. Here in 1845 he was engaged in woodworking, pattern-making and cabinetmaking. Like his father, too, he lived on Shipley Street, between Sixth and Seventh. . . . George B. Kinkead married in 1846, Lydia A. Windle of Wilmington, descendant of pre-Revolutionary landholders in New Castle County. . . . During the next decade George B. Kinkead's business prospered in Wilmington. He formed a partnership and the new firm advertised from August 18, 1856 to July 28, 1857, in the *Delaware State Journal*, published at Wilmington: "The undersigned would respectfully inform their friends and the public, that they are prepared to make all kinds of machinery patterns, steam engine spur and bevel wheels, pulleys, etc., and keep constantly on hand a large assortment of cabinet turned work. They will also do turning, planing, scroll and circular sawing for carpenters and others at the shortest notice. Maple posts and banisters, brackets, and curtain boards, etc, made in the best manner. Kinkead and Smith, Corner of Front & Justison Streets, Wilmington." [1]

This partnership was dissolved late in 1857 and Kinkead continued his business alone at the foot of Thorn Street on the Christina.[2] After his

wife's death in 1857 he remarried, this time to Clara Janvier of New Castle.[3] They were married June 16, 1859. Soon thereafter they moved to Minnesota. On May 3, 1864 Kinkead was accidentally killed while helping to construct a log house.[4]

[1] Jeannette Eckman (Edit.), *The Kinkeads of Delaware as Pioneers in Minnesota, 1856-1868* (Printed for George W. Butz, Jr., Wilmington, 1949), p. 4.
[2] *Ibid.*, p. 5.
[3] *Ibid.*, p. 12.
[4] *Ibid.*, p. 44, note 7a.

GEORGE LAWRENCE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 and 1857 Directories*

William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* lists Lawrence's home address as 155 West Front Street, while Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* gives it as 80 East Second Street.

JOHN LUFF

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

"JOHN LUFF, CABINET MAKER and UNDERTAKER, No. 79 Shipley St., between Second and Third Sts., WILMINGTON, DELAWARE," is listed on page 148 of the *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, Joshua Heald, compiler.

MACNICHOL & CLARK

Cabinetmakers *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1853*

"MACNICHOL & CLARK: CABINET MAKERS: A general assortment of FURNITURE ON HAND AND MADE TO ORDER,"[1] advertised their shop as "opposite the City Hall," had mattresses, feathers, and wallpaper, and also did upholstering.

[1] Joshua Heald, *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, p. 175.

JAMES MANNIN

Cabinetmaker's Apprentice *Dover* *Apprenticed in 1757-176*

This Indenture made this twenty ninth day of March one thousand seven hundred and fifty seven between James Mannin of the Town of Dover and County of Kent on Dela. and Patience Allen his Mother of the one part and John Bell of the county afs^{d} Joiner of the other part Witnesseth that he the said Mannin of his own Voluntary and free will and accord as well as by the free will and consent of his Mother hath bound himself an apprentice to the said John Bell his heirs Ex^{r}. and Ad^{mrs} for and during the full term and time of four years and six months from the date of these presents During all which time his master faithfully shall he his secrets keep and all his Lawful Commands Gladly Everywhere obey he shall not absent himself night nor Day out of his S^{d} masters . . . but in all things behave himself as a faithful Apprentice aught to Do and S^{d} master Doth oblidge himself his heirs Exec^{r}. Adm^{r} to larn or Causd to be Taught sd apprentice the Traid art and mystery of Shop Joiner or Cabinet-maker as allso to find and Provide for s^{d} apprentice Good sofisient meat Drink whasing lodging & apperall and at the Experation of S^{d} Term to give s^{d} apprentice Two Suits of Close one whereof to Be New.

In Witness whereof both Parties have to this Indenture sett too there hands and affix^{d} there Seals the Date afors^{d}

James Mannin (Seal)
Patience Allen (Seal)

Sealed and Delivered
in the Presents of us
Thos Parke
Wm Wells

[Superscription] Dover Kent Co^{y} March 29, 1757. I do Certify that the Within Indenture was duely Executed before me Rob:^{t} Willocks [1]

Indenture James Mannin to Jn^{o} Bell

Mannin served apprentice to Bell for three years when his Mother petitioned the Court:

To the worshipfull, the Members of the Court at an Adjourned Court now Sitting at Dover in Kent County on Dela-

ware The Petition of Patience Allen widow most humbly Shewwth—That your Petitioner's Son, one James Mannin, was bound an Apprentice to a Certain John Bell of the Town of Dover in said County, on the Ninth day of March Ann. Dom. 1757 for the Term of four years and six months, to Learn of the afsd John Bell the Trade, Art, or Mistery, of a Cabnet maker, but the said John Bell failing in the exercise of his Trade, and being wholely determined to let cease, and quit the same, to the great loss, as your Petr humbly conceives, both to her, and her Son, Especially to the latter in lack of his Trade aforesaid

Wherefore, and for many other Losses your Petr and her Son, hath Sustained with regard to sundry Covenants and Agreements in the Indenture to which the said John Bell hath not conformed, as may be made manifestly appear to your Worships.

Your Petitioner most humbly intreats that she may be Admitted to move her sd Son to Philadelphia, in order the better to Learn the Trade afores[d]. Or Craves your Worship's Election in Ordering, or Distributing of him your Petr Son afsd. As Ye in your wonted Goodness and Wisdom shall think proper.

And your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray & etc. Dated 27th May 1760.

[Superscription] June 4, 1760 the within petition being in evidence by the Court is granted and thereupon the sd James Mannin is Discharged from his sd Master John Bell and the sd Patience Allen is left at liburte to bind the sd James Mannin to the same Trade in Philada or Elsewhere. The Petition of Patience Allen Widow.[2]

[1] Kent County Indentures, 1757.
[2] *Ibid.*

JAMES MAXWELL, JR.

oiner *Kent County* *Working before 1752*

In the Name of God am:[on] this second Day of October one thousand seven hundred & fifty two, I James Maxwill Junier of the County of Kent Joyner . . . I give and bequeath to my wifes Daughter Ann Darling the sum of two pounds to be paid by the Executors Discretionaly as she shall want it for the supplicance of her edication and I doe allso Leive the afsd. Ann to the care of Henory Upprichart upon provisen he will put her an appren-

tice unto Elizabeth Badger if she will take her—Also I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Elizabeth Maxwell all my Real and personal Estate after paying my Just Debts which is now a child also I will my Brother Robert my Best Sute of Cloths and my wifes cloths to be Equally divided between my Daughter and hers Except on[e] Black gowne I Bequeath to her sister Neamed Ann Helford. Also I leave my Daughter Elizabeth in my Brother Roberts care whome I make my hole and sole Executor etc. . . . James Maxwell Saml Robinson[,] John Taylor Junr[,] Mathew X [his mark] Claghorn [1]

[1] This will was probated October 11, 1752. Wills and Administrations Ken County, Vol. A 34, p. 80-84.

SAMUEL McCLARY, JR.

Cabinetmaker Wilmington Listed in 1845, 1853, and 1857 Directorie

McClary's address is given as between Fourth and Fifth Streets i Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845*, as 12 Wes Seventh Street in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for th Year 1845*, and as 159 Market in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington Cit Directory for the Year 1857*.

THOMAS McCLARY

Cabinetmaker Wilmington Listed in 1853 and 1857 Directorie

In Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 185* Thomas McClary's address is listed as 178 Shipley. In William H. Boyd *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* it is listed as 159 Marke where he worked with Samuel McClary (*q. v.*)

S. & T. McCLARY

Cabinetmakers Wilmington Listed in 1857 Director

"S. & T. McClary, cabinetmakers, undertakers and upholsters, N 159 Market St. between 5th & 8th Sts. (formerly 121 Shipley)" are liste in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*.

FRANCIS McCLOSKIE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

William H. Boyd gives McCloskie's address as East Sixth Street near Spruce in his *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

ALLEN McDOWELL

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

McDowell's address in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* is given as 53 East Second.

DANIEL McDOWELL

Cabinetmaker *Duck Creek Cross Roads (Smyrna) and Dover* *Working c. 1793-1830*

According to an inscription inside a tall case clock, James and Daniel McDowell were partners in the cabinetmaking business in "Duck Creek cross roads" in 1793.[1] William MacPherson Hornor, in his excellent article on James McDowell, states that Daniel had worked with James until the turn of the century, but that he married in 1807 and moved to the vicinity of Dover in 1809.[2] At the time he was doing the research on McDowell, Hornor had access to Daniel McDowell's account book for the year 1803. Daniel was still in Smyrna, but was apparently in a shop of his own. The entries show that he was capable of making candle-stands, a "Toylet Table," dining tables, breakfast tables, clock cases, etc., and to mend all manner of furniture.[3]

When Daniel McDowell died, intestate, in 1830, his estate was valued at only $572.09½, out of which was taken Thomas Stevenson's standard charge for a coffin, "$12.50."[4]

In the collection of Mr. Alfred Biggs of Dover there is a chest of drawers in the Sheraton style which is inscribed on the back, "Made by / D. McDowell / Smyrna."

1 "Middletown Antiques," *The New Delawarean*, Sept., 1939, p. 20, shows a picture of tall case clock in the style of Chippendale, scroll top, enamel face, with caption: "This grand-father clock . . . owned by Mrs. E. D. Shallcross, is of uncertain date.

It was repaired [?] at Duck Creek cross roads in 1793 by James J. [*sic.*] Daniel McDowell according to a crumbling note pasted within."

[2] William MacPherson Hornor, "James McDowell, a Delaware Cabinetmaker," *Antiquarian*, Nov., 1930, p. 65.

[3] *Ibid.*, p. 106.

[4] Daniel McDowell, Kent County Administrations, 1830 (Delaware State Archives, Dover).

JAMES McDOWELL, SR.

Cabinetmaker Duck Creek Cross Roads (Smyrna) Working 1785-1836

James McDowell and his near relative Daniel McDowell, probably his brother, worked together in Duck Creek Cross Roads at the end of the eighteenth century. McDowell's sons William and James, Jr., also were cabinetmakers in Smyrna in the early part of the nineteenth century.

The McDowells worked in the Hepplewhite, Sheraton and Empire styles. A bow front chest of drawers in the Danby Collection at the Historical Society of Delaware contains the inscription: "James McDowell, Cabinet-Maker, Duck Creek, Delaware," on a drawer bottom. The front corners of this chest are chamfered and contain line inlay as a simulated reeded column. Possibly the most distinctive feature of McDowell's finer case pieces is the terrapin escutcheon or shaped inlay surrounding each key hole. This was also used by his brother-in-law Thomas Stevenson and may be an indication that Stevenson had served apprentice to McDowell.

William MacPherson Hornor has done the pioneer research on the McDowells of Duck Creek Cross Roads.[1] William McDowell, the first son to follow his father's trade, died in 1829. After this James, Jr., replaced his brother in the father's shop. James, Sr., rendered a bill of long standing to William Shields in 1831 [2] and as it gives prices for furniture, it is quoted below:

March 16, 1822	To	1 Circular Mahogany Bureau	$ 32.00
July 23, 1825	"	1 Field Bedstead	10.00
February 12, 1827		Ballance on Cup Board	4.00
February 6, 1828		1 Cord Bedstead	4.00
June 7,		1 Field Bedstead	10.00
March 25, 1830		1 Side Board	52.50
January, 1831		1 Mahogany Work Stand	14.00
			$126.50

James McDowell's fellow worker and kinsman Daniel McDowell died in

830,[3] but by this time he had moved to the vicinity of Dover[4] and we nd that Thomas Stevenson of that town was paid $12.50 for a coffin for aniel.[5]

Regarding his cabinetmaker son and the cabinet shop in Smyrna IcDowell is quite specific in his will:

> . . . I give, bequeath and devise to my son James McDowell Junior my cabinet makers shop built on lands late of John Cummins deceased with all my right in the lands on which it stands to have and to hold to my said Son James his heirs and assigns forever. I also give and devise to my said Son James all my cabinet making tools, and all of the tools of my trade as a cabinet maker, together with all materials for, and all unfinished furniture that may be on hand at the time of my decease.[6]

n a codicil dated Sept. 6, 1836, he gives his wife Elisabeth

> six Windsor chairs her choice and one large mahogany framed looking glass . . . I also give to my wife . . . two beds and furniture (her choice) one Mahogany Bureau, all the crockery ware and such kitchen furniture as she may wish.[7]

Ie mentions that his house is in Smyrna between Commerce Street and Iethodist Street. McDowell died in the latter part of the year 1836.

1 William MacPherson Hornor, "James McDowell, a Delaware Cabinetmaker," *ntiquarian*, Nov., 1930, p. 64.
2 McDowell papers in possession of Mr. Alfred Biggs, Dover, Del.
3 Daniel McDowell, Estate Administration, 1830 (Delaware State Archives, Dover).
4 Hornor, *op. cit.*, p. 65.
5 Estate Administration papers, *op. cit.*
6 James McDowell, Kent County Wills, 1836.
7 *Ibid.*

JAMES McDOWELL, JR.

abinetmaker *Smyrna* *Working c. 1820-c. 1860*

See JAMES McDOWELL, SR.

WILLIAM McDOWELL

Cabinetmaker *Smyrna* *Working c. 1815-1829*

Hornor [1] states that William McDowell apprenticed to his father and worked subsequently in his father's shop until his death. It appears that William remained always an employee in his father's shop, for the two pieces of furniture signed by William, presently (1959) known are signed with greater florish by his father.[2] Perhaps this was the agreement made between father and son; at any rate William did not live to succeed to the business,[3] fate having decreed that he should pre-decease his father by seven years, leaving the way clear for James, Jr., to carry on the family tradition.[4]

[1] William MacPherson Hornor, "James McDowell, a Delaware Cabinetmaker," *Antiquarian*, Nov., 1930, p. 67.

[2] Late Sheraton style sideboard pictured in Hornor's article, then (1930) in collection of Charles E. Williams and walnut chest of drawers in Sheraton style signed: "James McDowell, Cabinet Maker, Smyrna, Delaware, August, 1821 . . . Wm. McDowell," in author's collection.

[3] William McDowell, Kent County Administrations, 1829 (Delaware State Archives, Dover).

[4] James McDowell, Kent County wills, 1836.

ROBERT McGEE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

McGee's address is 163 Tatnall in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

WILLIAM McILVAIN

Joiner (?) *Lewes* *d. 1776*

At the estate sale of the McIlvain family in Lewes in the early 1900's a number of distinctly local pieces in the styles of Queen Anne and Chippendale were put on the auction block. Some of these have been preserved in a Wilmington collection.[1]

It is on the strength of these pieces that I hope I am properly deciphering a manuscript concerning William McIlvain. In a funeral list made by the minister of the Lewes Presbyterian Church in the 1770's there is an entry which appears to say:

"1776 2 July William McIlvain, Joiner, Esteemed a Goddly [*sic.*] promising [young man?]" [2]

Of course, I may be entirely wrong. The word may be "Junior" instead of "Joiner," but the manuscript is folded and torn at this point and the letters are difficult to ascertain.

[1] Collection of Mrs. Caleb S. Layton, Wilmington.
[2] Funeral List, Lewes Presbyterian Church (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington).

WILLIAM MITCHELL

Turner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Mitchell's address is 70 Lombard in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

JAMES MOORE

Chair Framer *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

James Moore, chair framer, is listed in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853.* His address is given as 134 Tatnall Street.

BENJAMIN MORTON

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1789*

In 1789, Benjamin Morton, chairmaker, bought "mortise chisels, plane bitt, nails, [and] glue" from John Ferriss, Sr. (*q. v.*), cabinetmaker and hardware dealer of Wilmington.[1]

[1] John Ferriss Account Book, 1785-1790 (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington).

WILLIAM MOUNTAIN

Chairmaker *New Castle* *Working c. 1788-c. 1818*

In the account book of John Ferriss, Sr. (*q. v.*), cabinetmaker and hardware merchant of Wilmington, is the record of a sale to "William

Mountain, Painter and Chair Maker at New Castle." [1] This entry is under the date, "8 mo. 11, 1788," but two years earlier, Richard McWilliams of New Castle sent his daughter Nancy to "Mr. Mountain's School" on April 20, 1786.[2] This may be an underpaid schoolteacher supplementing his income by being a chairmaker and painter as well. By July, 1819, the plantation of "William Mountain dec'd" in St. George's Hundred was advertised to be sold at sheriff's sale.[3]

[1] John Ferriss Account Book, 1785-1790 (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), p. 27.
[2] Richard McWilliams Account Book, entry for April 20, 1786 (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware).
[3] *American Watchman* (Wilmington), Aug. 4, 1819.

LEVI MURPHEY

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Levi Murphey, cabinetmaker, "boards at 84 East Fourth St." according to William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

SAMUEL MURPHEY

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

Murphey's address in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* is 45 Shipley Street.

WILLIAM J. MURPHEY

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

William J. Murphey's address is given as the northwest corner of Jefferson and Franklin Streets in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853.*

MURPHEY & RUSSELL

Cabinetmakers *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1853*

MURPHEY & RUSSELL (successors to JOHN FERRIS), CABINET MAKERS AND UNDERTAKERS, Nos. 41 and 43 SHIPLEY STREET, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE. Would respectfully inform their friends and the public in general, that they still continue to carry on the Cabinet Making business in all its various branches, and are prepared to make to order all kinds of furniture in their line, on reasonable terms and in a workman-like manner.

All kinds of furniture constantly on hand. N. B. We are also prepared to furnish Coffins at short notice, and attend to funerals with promptitude.

Samuel Murphey
John Russell [1]

[1] Joshua Heald (pub.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, p. 89.

JACOB F. MYNICH

Chair Ornamenter *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Jacob F. Mynich, chair ornamenter, lived at 35 Market Street, according to William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

WILLIAM NEVIN

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Nevin's address is listed as 45 Orange Street in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

ISAAC NEWLIN

Cabinetmaker's Apprentice *Wilmington* *Absconded in 1805*

The same day that Amor Jefferis advertised his cabinetmaking business, he also included a notice that he was having trouble maintaining order in his household:

FIVE DOLLARS REWARD, Ran away from the subscriber, living in the Borough of Wilmington, on the 18th of March last [1804], an apprentice boy named, Isaac Newlin; he is about five feet six or seven inches high, of a dark complexion, of down looks, walks some what crippling in his feet. It is quite probable that he will apply for work at the Cabinet making business, as that has been the business which he was most accustomed to. Whoever takes up and secures the said apprentice in any jail so that I may have him again, or brings him home, shall have the above reward and reasonable charges paid by Amor Jefferis. March 2d 1805.[1]

[1] *Mirror of the Times* (Wilmington), March 2, 1805.

SAMUEL NICHOLS

Chairmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Working in 1800***

The Borough of Wilmington purchased chairs for the new Town Hall as follows:

1800, 6 mo., 18
Samuel Nichols—By his acct (for chairs & etc.) $20.[1]

Also, from a manuscript in the collection of the Historical Society of Delaware, I find that Samuel Nichols and George Young were working together at Second and King Streets in 1803:

David West, to Samuel Nichols & George Young Dbr [2]

1803, 5m, 7th	To 6 Bamboo Chairs @ dozen $18		$ 9.0
	2 arm'd	do @ " 2.50	5.0
			14.0

[1] Wilmington Borough Treasurer's Account, 1791-1801 (Delaware State Archives, Dover).
[2] Miscellaneous Ms., Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

SAMUEL NILES

Cabinetmaker, Carpenter, Plane Maker ***Wilmington*** ***Advertised in 1791***

Samuel advertised in 1791 that he carried on the plane making business.[1] A local chronicler writing of Wilmington in 1796 said: "Samuel

Niles . . . Carpenter and Cabinet Maker . . . he also made Carpenters Plains. He was killed by a Sign Blowing Down on him along the Street." [2] Samuel's mother, Mary Way Niles, and his younger brother, Hezekiah, printer and publisher, were executors of his estate. Hezekiah offered the business for sale and added that "Carpenters, joiners, &c. are respectfully informed that he has on hand a variety of plains which he will sell low for cash." [3]

[1] *Delaware Gazette* (Wilmington), Dec. 31, 1791.
[2] *Amos Brinton Journal* (Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), Book G, p. 51.
[3] *Delaware Gazette* (Wilmington), Aug. 5, 1796.

DELL NOBLETT

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working in Wilmington c. 1810-1844*

Dell Noblett was born October 9, 1777, in Middletown Township, Chester County (now Delaware County) Pennsylvania. He learned the trade of cabinetmaking with Philip Painter in Chester, and subsequently worked at the trade in New York City and Germantown, Pennsylvania. He settled in Wilmington about 1810 and worked with George Whitelock (*q. v.*) for a few years.[1]

Noblett was noted not only as a cabinetmaker but also for longevity. He died in his one hundred and first year while residing in retirement at his old business address on the southwest corner of Sixth and Market Streets. His reminiscences published in the local paper [2] in observance of his one hundreth birthday contain a few inaccuracies one could expect for one of that age, but for the most part they show that his mind was still alert. He said that he often looked from George Whitelock's, which he placed on the northwest corner of Sixth and Market, to the field across the way and wished that he owned the property. Eventually he purchased the site and erected a shop and dwelling for himself. This he expanded, as he became prosperous, into shops extending along Sixth Street.

George Whitelock's label [3] states that his shop is "next door above the Town-Hall, Market Street . . . ," but since the area was largely undeveloped at the time, by this he must have meant that his shop was the closest building to the Town Hall, though it was across the intersection of Market and Sixth Streets.

In his reminiscences, Noblett said that he worked for George Whitelock for eight years; if so, he must have come to Wilmington before 1810.

In 1801 he married Elizabeth Wiall, of Philadelphia. At this time he must have been working in Germantown. His second wife was Elizabeth Bralton, of Brandywine Hundred, whom he married in 1813.

Robert Porter's Wilmington city directory, published in 1814, places Noblett's shop on Shipley Street between Broad (Seventh) and Kent (Eighth) Streets. The following year he had set up business at Sixth and Market, as shown by the following:

> NOTICE. The partnership of Noblett and Gregg, Cabinet Makers was dissolved by mutual consent on the 7th inst. All persons indebted to said firm are requested to make speedy payment, and those having demands to present them for settlement.
>
> Dell Noblett
> Thomas Gregg
>
> Wilmington, Aug. 9
>
> The business will be continued at the same place by D. Noblett. FURNITURE FOR SALE. To be sold at the shop lately occupied by the subscribers, at the corner of Market and Hanover Street, on Saturday next the 12th inst. a variety of Cabinet ware, among which are Bureaus, eliptic tables, bedsteads, window cornish, and sideboards, likewise the stock of stuff on hand consisting of Walnut and Poplar plank, cherry boards, inch and 2 inch plank, and cabinet makers tools. Sale to begin at 9 o'clock. Conditions will be made known at time of sale.
>
> Dell Noblett
> Thomas Gregg [4]

Wilmington's second city directory, published in 1845, informs us that Dell Noblett's son, John, continued his father's business at Sixth and Market Streets.[5]

1 *Every Evening and Daily Commercial* (Wilmington), October 19, 1877.
2 *Ibid.*
3 See photo of label in Whitelock clock case, author's collection.
4 *Delaware Gazette*, August 9, 1815.
5 Lewis Wilson (Comp.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* (Wilmington: Porter & Naff).

HAMILTON NOBLIT

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Hamilton Noblit, son of Dell Noblett, and brother of John Noblit, all cabinetmakers, is listed in the 1845 Wilmington city directory as having his shop on Market Street between Eighth and Ninth.[1] His residence is given as Shipley Street between Eighth and Ninth. He is not listed in the 1853 directory.

[1] Lewis Wilson (Comp.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* (Wilmington: Porter & Naff).

JOHN NOBLIT

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

In Wilmington's second city directory, published in 1845, all three Noblits are listed as cabinetmakers, Dell the father and his sons John and Hamilton.

John placed the following advertisement in this issue of the directory:

> CABINET MAKING. /-/ THE subscriber continues the above business in all its / branches at the long established stand of his father, / Corner of Market and Sixth streets, / Where he keeps on hand an assortment of furniture of the / latest fashions and superior workmanship. He manufac- / tures to order any article in his line of business, warranted / to give complete satisfaction. / FEATHERS, BEDS and MATTRESSES / OF various qualities constantly on hand and for sale at the / lowest market prices. / UNDERTAKING—All orders in this line promptly and / expeditiously executed. JOHN NOBLIT.[1]

John does not appear in the next Wilmington Directory of 1853. His father still appears, but as a retired gentleman rather than an active craftsman.[2]

[1] Lewis Wilson (Comp.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* (Wilmington: Porter & Naff).

[2] Joshua Heald (pub.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853.*

MARY P. NOBLIT

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

Mary P. Noblit is listed as a cabinetmaker living at 186 Shipley Street in Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853.*

ROBERT OWEN

Chairmaker *New Castle* *Working in 1798*

The earliest minutes book of the New Castle Town Council to have survived the fires and neglect that have formerly plagued the town, fortunately contains a tax list with an entry dated June 12, 1798, in which "Robert Owen, Chair maker,"[1] is listed.

[1] New Castle Town Council Minutes, 1798 (Town Clerk's Office, New Castle).

SAMUEL PAINTER

Turner *Wilmington* *Working c. 1764—after 1800*
b. 1743, d. 1829

Samuel Painter, turner, is mentioned by Benjamin Ferris the historian on page 86 of his manuscript compilation, *My Kith and Kin,* located at the Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.

JOHN H. PENNINGTON

Piano Maker *Smyrna* *Advertised in 1824*

> PIANNO FORTES/JOHN H. PENNINGTON,/RESPECTFULLY informs the public generally, that he has commenced the manufacturing of Pianno Fortes, in all its various branches, in Smyrna, (Del) where he hopes by a strict attention to business and a determination to please, to merit a liberal share of public patronage. He likewise repairs and tunes Pianno Fortes in the best style and at the shortest notice. Orders (post paid) will be thankfully received and punctually attended to. Aug. 20.[1]

[1] *Delaware Gazette* (Wilmington), Aug. 20, 1824.

DAVID PENNY

Cabinetmaker *Brandywine Hundred* *Working 1798-1832*

> David Penny, Cabinet-maker . . . has commenced business, in the house of his late father, two miles from Brandywine-Bridge, on the Philadelphia Road—where every article in his line will be executed in a neat manner, on moderate terms. All work bespoke from said Penny, will be delivered Gratis at the distance of ten miles.[1]

David Penny left a long and involved will, dated Feb. 3, 1821, in which he instructed his executors to build a brick and marble table tombstone over his grave in the yard of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, and made elaborate provisions for his five grandsons. He left his house and furnishings first to his wife Ann, his major heir, but if she remarried or died the house was to go to his daughter Mary.[2] The cabinetmaker's shop on the acre of ground adjoining the house he left in trust with his brother William and his brother-in-law George Lodge for his grandsons, William A. McCorkle and James A. Derrickson, when they came of age.

David was the older brother of William Penny, cabinetmaker, (*q. v.*) and for a period of perhaps 27 years the two brothers worked together in the cabinetshop on the family place half way up Penny Hill on the west side of the Philadelphia Road. In November, 1807, Penny was paid $8.00 for making the coffin for the funeral of Charles Trute the pianomaker (*q. v.*).[3] Thus in the manner typical of all cabinetmakers of the period, we find in the inventory of Penny's estate a hearse, unfinished coffins and other items concerned with funerals. The most interesting part of the inventory, other than the fine list of tools for cabinetmaking, is the exact descriptions of the pieces of finished and unfinished furniture he had in his shop at the time of his death.[4]

1 *Delaware Gazette*, June 23, 1798.
2 New Castle County Wills.
3 New Castle County Estate Administrations (Delaware State Archives, Dover).
4 New Castle County Inventories (Delaware State Archives, Dover).

WILLIAM PENNY

Cabinetmaker *Brandywine Hundred* *Working c. 1805-1843*

William Penny's will, signed August 1, 1843, probated October 17, of the same year, begins in the traditional fashion: "Be it Remembered,

That I, William Penny of Brandywine Hundred New Castle County and State of Delaware (Cabinet-Maker) . . . ." [1] In it he left all his personal and real estate to his wife Margaret for her lifetime, after which his real estate in Brandywine Hundred was to go to his nephew Charles McCorkle.

William lived 11 years after the death, in 1832, of his brother and partner, David Penny (*q. v.*). The Penny brothers, with their home and workshop half way up Penny Hill on the west side of the road, were friends and neighbors of Charles Trute, piano-maker and inn-keeper, who lived on the east side of the Philadelphia Road farther north.

[1] New Castle County Wills.

WILLIAM PERKINS

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1785*

In the daily ledger kept by John Ferriss, Sr., of Wilmington between 1785 and 1790 to record the business of his general store and hardware shop (but, alas, not his cabinet shop) is the entry under the date, June 28, 1785 of a sale to "William Perkin, Chairmaker." [1]

[1] John Ferriss Account Book, 1785-1790 (Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington), p. 7.

JOHN PETERSON

Turner *Wilmington* *Working in 1803*

> John Peterson, Turner, (At Mill-Creek Bridge, one Mile from Wilmington) Respectfully informs the public, that he continues to carry on the Turning Business in all its various branches—such as, Columns of all sizes, Newel Posts, Ballusters, Bedstead-Posts and Pins, Printers' Ball-stocks, Hatters' Blocks, Brush Blocks, Coach-makers' Hubbs, Bars, Posts, &&c.—
> As his Lathe goes by water, and being well acquainted with the business, he hopes to give general satisfaction; and to those who may favour him with their custom, and allowance will be made for cost or trouble of sending stuff, or taking it from the shop—and particular attention paid, that the work be executed with neatness and dispatch.
> March 23: [1]

[1] *The Federal Ark* (Wilmington), March 23, 1803.

JOHN C. PETHERBRIDGE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Opened Shop in 1804*

John C. Petherbridge Cabinet and Chair Maker, respectfully informs his friends, and the public in general, that he has taken the shop formerly occupied by Andrew Catherwood dec'd. where he carries on the above business in its various branches. He hopes, by his attention, and endeavors, to merit the patronage of all who may favor him with their custom.

N. B. Apply to John White, Druggist, in Market Street, near F. Craig's tavern—or at the Cabinet shop in King Street, six doors above the lower market. Printers may be supplied with furniture in their line.

Wilmington, August 18.[1]

[1] *Mirror of the Times & General Advertiser*, Aug. 25, 1804.

JAN PICOLET

Joiner *New Amstel (New Castle)* *Working 1655 or before*

"Jan Picolet, a native of Bruylet in France" was released on May 25, 1657, from his promise of marriage to Catryne Jans, made January 24, 1656; it having become apparent that she would soon bear a child fathered by a soldier aboard the ship "De Waegh."[1] Obviously, the disillusioned lover was in New Amstel in 1655 or before.

Picolet, a French-trained joiner and turner, brought suit in the Court at New Amstel, June 23, 1656 against Jan Scaggen for payment for a field-bed. Scaggen had ordered Picolet to build it smaller than the completed product and now refused to pay the larger charges demanded by him. The Court ordered the parties to come to an agreement, or, if not, "the couch shall be valued." This field-bed was valued at twenty-four guilders. In August, Picolet was paid and Scaggen took the bed.[2]

In November, 1656, Picolet demanded payment for a field-bed from Thomas Broen, who claimed that he had only borrowed the bed and had not bought it.[3] Picolet was granted a land patent, Sept. 1, 1656, to three morgens, eighty-five rods, of land south of Fort Casimir near the Brickmaker's Point.[4]

[1] B. Fernow (edit.), *Documents Relating to the History of the Dutch and Swedish Settlements on the Delaware River*, (Albany, 1877), pp. 144, 145, 146.
[2] *Ibid.*, p. 150. [3] *Ibid.* [4] *Ibid.*

WILLIAM PYFER & SON

Carvers *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

William Pyfer and his son William Pyfer, Jr., are listed in William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* as living and working at 16 Orange Street.

JOHN QUILLING

Chairmaker *Little Creek Hundred, Kent County* *Working before 177*

The Dover, August 23, 1774, petition of Sarah Quilling and James Cummins, administrators of the estate of John Quilling, says: "Late of Little Creek Hundred in the County afsd. Chairmaker, deceased. . . To the amount of the Inventory 42:18:4. . . . To cash in the house at his decease 1:0:10." [1]

[1] Kent County Wills and Administrations, Vol. A-42, p. 3.

THOMAS RALPH

Joiner *Little Creek Hundred, Sussex County* *Working c. 1785-181*

Thomas Ralph was essentially a house-carpenter; however, one feature of every house upon which he worked and very much a Ralph trademark is his distinctive form of corner cupboard construction and decoration. Whether a corner cupboard was installed as part of the new construction or was made to stand free in an older house, the form varied little and became a local style in Little Creek Hundred. The cupboards—and about 30 are known in the vicinity of Laurel—stand from floor to ceiling and have a wide and heavy outside molding. The upper section contains scalloped shelves and two tall multi-paned doors. Just inside the upper doors, at the top of the cupboard opening, is a pierced screen with the center section an arch and each side a cut-out swastika. This decorative feature seems to serve as an illusion of a shell-topped interior of earlier years and a more accomplished hand. The lower parts of Ralph's cupboards have two variants in form. The earlier form has one door in the center with a matching panel on each side. Above the center door as a part of the heavy and early-type molding is a pull out dish or candle slide. The later lower sections have two large doors that fill the

area. Both forms of cupboards have the upper surrounding area and moldings fitted with applied fretwork consisting of convex and concave semi-circles. The later cupboards lack the candle or dish slide and have early nineteenth century gouge work decoration in its place.

One free-standing cupboard by Thomas Ralph of the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century form may be seen in the home of Mrs. J. Wheeler Campbell in Laurel. Ralph moved to Indiana with his family about 1815 or 1820. In anticipation of this departure from the Laurel area, Henry Bacon, an ancestor of Mrs. Campbell, had five identical cupboards made, one for each of his five daughters by his first wife. These were stored until the daughters were married. I am not certain of the year that Ralph departed for the West with his family. The one of the five wedding present cupboards owned by Mrs. Campbell should date, from its appearance, about 1810.[1]

[1] Family reminiscences of Mrs. J. Wheeler Campbell, Laurel, Delaware.

MARY RILEY

Chair Store Owner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845, 1853 and 1857 Directories*

Mary Riley, widow of Samuel, is listed in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* as having a chair store at 23 Market Street. In Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* she is mentioned as having a "chair manufactory" at 35 Market Street, and William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* also gives this address for her home and "chair factory."

RILEY & ROBINSON

Chairmakers *Wilmington* *Working in 1811*

RILEY & ROBISON, [*sic*] WINDSOR CHAIR MAKERS, At their shop in Front, two doors from Market street, make all sorts of Windsor, Fancy and rush bottomed chairs; where their friends and the public generally, may be supplied with chairs of the best materials and workmanship, on moderate terms. Wilmington, Feb. 13, 1811.[1]

NOTICE—The partnership of Riley and Robinson Windsor Chair-makers, was by mutual consent dissolved on the 11th inst.

All persons indebted to said firm, are requested to make payments without delay, and those having demands to present for payment to John Robinson, who is authorised to settle the concerns of the said partnership.

Samuel Riley
John Robinson

Wilmington, Oct. 12, 1811.[2]

[1] *American Watchman and Delaware Republican* (Wilmington), Feb. 13, 1811.
[2] *Ibid.*, Oct. 12, 1811.

THOMAS ROACH

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* gives Roach's business address as Market between Eighth and Ninth, and his home as Shipley between Eighth and Ninth.

JOHN ROBINSON

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working in 1811*

JOHN ROBISON [*sic*]—Windsor Chair-Maker, at his shop in Front, 2 doors from Market Street, makes all sorts of Windsor, Fancy and rush bottomed chairs; where his friends and the public generally, may be supplied with chairs of the best materials and workmanship, on moderate terms.[1]

[1] *American Watchman and Delaware Republican* (Wilmington), Oct. 16, 1811.

JAMES ROSS & JARED CHESNUT

Chairmakers *Wilmington* *Working as partners in 1804*

WINDSOR CHAIR MANUFACTORY. The subscriber takes this opportunity of returning his grateful thanks to his friends and customers in general, for past favors, and that he has declined the coopering business, and is now concerned with Mr. J. Chesnut in carrying on the Rush Bottom and Windsor

CHAIR MAKING at the shop on Hemphill's wharf, Wilmington, where he respectfully solicits their custom and the public's in general.

JAMES ROSS

ROSS & CHESNUT

Contemplate carrying on the business in a very extensive manner, in all its various branches; customers and others, who please to call on them may depend on being supplied on the shortest notice. From the goodness and neatness of their work, and strictness to business, they hope to merit public favor.

JAMES ROSS, and
J. CHESNUT [1]

[1] *Mirror of the Times and General Advertiser* (Wilmington), Feb. 21, 1804.

THOMAS R. SAGER

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

In his *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857*, William H. Boyd lists Thomas R. Sager as "late cabinetmaker" and his home as 129 East Fourth Street.

JOHN SEBO

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1822, took apprentices until 1838; not in 1845 Directory*

JOHN SEBO, CABINET & SOFA MAKER, Corner of Broad and Market-streets, Wilmington, (Del.), Respectfully informs his friends and the public that he carries on the above business in all its various branches.

As he is determined to employ only the first rate workman, and make use of the best materials, he has no doubt of giving satisfaction to those who may favor him with their custom.

He intends keeping a stock of ready made FURNITURE on hand, with which the public can be supplied at any time.

N. B. J. S. would also inform the public, that he has procured an elegant HEARSE with the necessary equipments, such as are used in Philadelphia.[1]

Having established himself as a cabinetmaker, he proceeded to establish a home, for an 1823 newspaper notice carried the following item concerning our subject: "Married on Thursday morning, Sept. 4 at Newark, by the Rev. Mr. Bell, Mr. John Sebo to Miss Rebecca Hartly both of this borough." [2] Sebo acquired apprentices as well as a wife and we find in apprenticeship indentures that on August 6, 1833, George Kates, Jr., (*q. v.*) son of George Kates of Pennsylvania, was put apprentice to Sebo. George Kates, Jr., was born June 23, 1817.[3] This is the first apprentice I find for Sebo, though he had advertised for an apprentice seven years before the arrival of George Kates, Jr., as follows: "WANTED, AS an apprentice to the Cabinet making business a steady boy, of the age of fifteen or sixteen years. Terms will be made known after a short trial of the boy. John Sebo." [4] Eli Mendenhall was put apprentice to Sebo in 1835,[5] and on July 5, 1838, Joel D. Wolfe, (*q. v.*) age 15 years, 6 months and 15 days, son of Harman Wolfe of New Jersey, was "to be taught the art, trade and business of cabinet making." [6]

1 *The Wilmingtonian and Delaware Advertiser*, Dec. 31, 1822.
2 *Delaware Gazette*, Sept. 12, 1823.
3 New Castle County Apprentice Indentures, IV, 107.
4 *Delaware Gazette*, May 9 and 19, 1826.
5 New Castle County Apprentice Indentures, IV, 416.
6 *Ibid.*, V, 502.

JOHN AND PERRY SHEWARD

Cabinetmakers *Wilmington* *Listed in 1814 Directory*

Rest Sheward, mother of Mrs. George Whitelock, mentions her sons John and Perry Sheward in her will.[1] She also mentions Sarah her daughter, wife of the cabinetmaker. It is possible that the two brothers served apprentice to their brother-in-law. We do know that they had established a shop in competition with him by 1814. The directory for that year lists their shop at 207 Market Street, while John's residence is listed on Orange Street between Kent (Eighth) and Wood (Ninth) and Perry's at 112 Shipley Street.[2]

The brothers are not listed in the 1845 directory.

1 Rest Sheward, New Castle County Wills, R-1-158 (New Castle County Register of Wills, Wilmington).
2 Robert Porter, *Directory of the Borough of Wilmington and Brandywine Village 1814*.

WILLIAM SIMMONS

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Simmon's address is given in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* as Pasture Street between Seventh and Eighth Streets.

JAMES A. SIMPSON

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 Directory*

Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* gives Simpson's address as 210 Tatnall, the same as that given for Jacob Stanhope (*q. v.*).

CHARLES B. F. SMITH

Carpenter *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 and 1853 Directories*

"This miniture Bureau was built by Charles B. F. Smith at Harlan & Hollingsworth car shop in February 1837."

This inscription appears on a miniature Empire chest of drawers in the author's collection. Smith's address is given as Eleventh Street between Orange and Tatnall in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845*. He is also listed in the 1853 directory.

JOHN SMITH

Cabinetmaker *Lewes* *Working before 1799*

The Delaware Gazette of April 6, 1799 ran the following: "NOTICE. If JOHN SMITH, late of Lewis Town, cabinet maker will call on the editors hereof, he will hear of something to his advantage."

WILLIAM SMITH

House Carpenter and Joiner *Duck Creek Hundred* *Working in 1787*

William Smith, house carpenter and joiner, took Jonathan Whiteman as an apprentice on March 22, 1787, according to the Kent County Apprenticeship Indentures of that year.

JOSEPH W. SPRINGER

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1853*

JOSEPH W. SPRINGER'S CHEAP FURNITURE WAREROOMS, AT THE N. W. Corner of Second and Shipley Streets. [Cut of coffin.] The subscriber has on hand, and is constantly making all kinds of FURNITURE. Such as SOFAS, CHAIRS, BUREAUS, TABLES, WASHSTANDS, BEDSTEADS, HAIR AND CORN MATTRESSES, INC. OLD FURNITURE neatly repaired and varnished. Coffins made and Funerals attended to at the shortest notice. N. B.—Best quality of Feathers constantly on hand.[1]

[1] Joshua Heald (pub.), *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853*, p. 149.

ISRAEL STALCUP

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working 1798 and later*

Plaistering, Windsor Chair-Making, etc.

I take this method of informing my Friends and the Public in general, that I carry on the Plaistering Business, as usual; and have lately commenced the manufacture of Windsor Chairs; I have now a good assortment on hand for Sale on reasonable terms for cash or short credit. I return sincere thanks for past favors, particularly in the Plaistering line; and trust that no attention on my part will be wanting to insure a continuance.

Commands from the country, left at Thomas Spackman's, junr. near the Friends' Meeting-House, will be strictly attended to.

Israel Stalcup

An Apprentice will be taken to the Plaistering Business. Wilmington, 3d mo. 7, 1798.[1]

In 1801, Stalcup was paid $69.85 for work he did on the Town Hall. This could have been plaster work, but it might have also been for some of his Windsor chairs.[2]

[1] *Delaware Gazette*, March 24, 1798.

[2] Wilmington Borough Minutes, 1801-1811, entry for June 13, 1801 (Delaware State Archives, Dover).

JACOB STANHOPE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1853 and 1857 Directories*

Joshua Heald's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1853* gives Stanhope's address as 210 Tatnall. In William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* he is listed as a furniture manufacturer working at 17 West Sixth Street and living at " Orange corner of W. 6th."

JAMES STARR

Cabinetmaker *Milford* *Took apprentice in 1828*

On January 28, 1828, James Starr, cabinetmaker, of Milford, took Clement Jones (*q. v.*) of Mispillion Hundred as an apprentice, according to the Kent County Indenture list for that year.

JAMES H. STEVENSON

Cabinetmaker *Dover* *Working 1832-1849, b. Dec. 23, 1811, d. Sept. 12, 1849*

One month before he had officially completed his apprenticeship to his father, James Stevenson signed an Empire style chest of drawers thusly; " James Stevenson / maker Dover / Delaware / 1832 November 25th / for Thomas Stevenson / Dover, Dela." [1] James worked as a cabinetmaker in Dover for seventeen years. He pre-deceased his father just about the time the latter began his retirement from the cabinetmaking business. His wife, Temperance Ann Stevenson (b. March 15, 1809, d. Feb. 26, 1889), survived him many years. The Stevensons are buried in the old Methodist Episcopal Cemetary, North and New Streets, Dover.[2]

[1] Empire chest of drawers still in the Stevenson family, owned by Mrs. Alfred Biggs, Dover.

[2] Stevenson family notes assembled by Mr. Philip Baynard, Dover.

THOMAS STEVENSON

Cabinetmaker — *Duck Creek Cross Roads (Smyrna) and Dover* — *Working 1808—c. 1850; b. 1787, d. 1865*

Thomas Stevenson, son of James and Margaret Denney Stevenson, was born at Duck Creek Cross Roads (now Smyrna), February 25, 1787.[1] His father James Stevenson was a native of England who settled at Duck Creek soon after his arrival in this country. Thomas completed his apprenticeship in 1808, and that he served apprentice to his sister's husband, James McDowell (*q. v.*), I have no doubt. The workmanship of the two craftsmen is so similar that it is impossible to tell their unsigned pieces apart. Stevenson also copied the holly wood inlay "tarrapin" escutcheon which his master James McDowell used on his best pieces.

Thomas Stevenson married Sarah Quinally and they became the parents of ten children, one of whom, James H. (*q. v.*), born December 23, 1811,[2] apprenticed to his father and became a cabinetmaker.

It is surprising to find so many competent cabinetmakers at work in a Delaware village like Duck Creek Cross Roads in 1810. Stevenson was in Dover in 1824 and had his home and shop at 414 South State Street.[3] He probably moved there a few years after completing his apprenticeship. Judge George P. Fisher of Dover remembered that "at the N. West corner of that [Loockerman Street] and King was a one story Cabinet Shop, run by Father Stevenson, aforesaid, when anybody wanted a piece of furniture made. He was also an undertaker."[4] King and Loockerman Streets is some distance from South State Street so Stevenson must have set up the separate cabinet shop in what is presently the center of town as his business expanded. In his old age Stevenson gave up cabinetmaking and, to quote Judge Fisher again: "On the N. East corner of State and North Streets was a small, red, one story store-house which was unoccupied [in 1824]; but afterwards old Thomas Stevenson kept meat and flour and a few other articles for sale there."[5]

A mahogany bow front chest of drawers in the Sheraton style, made and signed by Thomas Stevenson at Duck Creek, is pictured on the cover of the catalogue of the Delaware furniture exhibition held at the Delaware Art Center in Wilmington in 1950.[6]

[1] "James Stevenson and Margaret Denney were married Feb. 14, 1775. They had eleven children, 8 of whom were boys and three girls. Their sixth son, Thomas Stevenson, was born in Smyrna, Del. on Sunday the 25th of Feb., 1787. . . . Sarah Quinally, wife of Thomas Stevenson was the dau. of James and Mary Quinally, whose

nativity is not known, either as to time or place. . . . James Stevenson, first named, was a native of England and settled at Duck Creek Cross Roads soon after coming to this country." Extracts from the Stevenson family Bible in the possession of descendant Mrs. Alfred Biggs, Dover.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] Stevenson family notes assembled by descendant Mr. Philip Baynard, Dover.

[4] George Purnell Fisher, "Recollections of Dover in 1824." *Papers of the Historical Society of Delaware* (Wilmington, 1896), LV, 16.

[5] *Ibid.*, p. 12.

[6] "Delaware Furniture from Delaware Houses" (Catalogue of Wilmington Society of the Fine Arts, 1950).

JOSEPH STICKLEY

Turner *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857* lists Stickley's address as 247 Orange Street.

DAVID H. STOKLEY

Chair Maker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1857 Directory*

Stokley worked at 184 Shipley Street and lived at 71 Poplar Street according to William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

HENRY TROTH

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working c. 1750-c. 1780*

Henry Troth, a member of the Eastern Shore of Maryland family of "Troth's Fortune" in Talbot County, was born in 1728 and served his apprenticeship with some as yet unknown master.[1] He completed his apprenticeship in 1749 and was working in Wilmington by 1750, for on February 25 of the following year he married Sarah Paschall, daughter of a local Quaker family.[2]

In 1756 Troth had trouble with David Bush, Captain of the local militia, which Troth explained in the following manner:

> An account of the Proceedings against me for not enlisting according to a Militia Law. Having Summoned me & two of my Apprentices to appear before David Bush, Esqr., to give our

Reasons for not enlisting. The 11th of the 11 mo[nth] 1756, William Bradshaw, Constable, came to my shop & took a Case of Draw[ers], value four Pounds, three & 4 d, & the same Day he sold them, as I heard, for twenty-six Shillings & Sixpence. He never shewed me the Execution nor told me whether he took it all on my Account or for me & my Prentices. Henry Troth.[3]

Troth, like several other Wilmingtonians, lost property to David Bush and his men who confiscated it in lieu of fines for not serving in the militia. The accusations were that the property was of much greater value than the fines amounted to. The fact that the sheriff's brother, Charles Bush (*q. v.*), was a competitor in the cabinetmaking business must have made the confiscation particularly distasteful to Troth. One of the apprentices Troth mentions was Ziba Ferris (*q. v.*).

A relative, William Troth, married Lydia Osborne at the Fourth Street meeting, 8th mo. 4th, 1763.[4] Henry Troth's Son, Henry, Jr., born in Wilmington, February 20, 1758, married Hannah Starr of Wilmington at the same Meeting House on September 13, 1783.[5] This data shows that the Troths, long known in Talbot County, Maryland, were a well-established Wilmington family during the second half of the eighteenth century.

[1] Birth records, Tred Avon Meeting, Easton, Md.
[2] *Friends in Wilmington, 1738-1938* (Wilmington Friends Meeting, 1938), p. 137.
[3] *Pennsylvania Archives*, Series 1, III, 170.
[4] *Friends in Wilmington, op. cit.*, p. 138.
[5] *Ibid.*, p. 139. Also, *Delaware Gazette*, April 17, 1790: "Henry Troth Respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he has for sale at his house in High-Street, near David Brinton's Tavern, a general assortment of Taylor's Trimmings and other Goods . . . Where he will sell on reasonable terms, for cash. He likewise carries on the tayloring and Cloak Making business as usual."

WILLIAM TRUAX

Cabinetmaker's Apprentice Duck Creek Hundred Apprenticed in 1786

William Truax Son of William Truax of Duck Creek Hundred & Kent County on Delaw[e] doth voluntarily & of his own free will and accord by and with the advice and consent of his Father—put place and bind himself apprentice unto James Mc Dowell Cabinet maker to learn the art trade and mystery of a Cabinet Maker and with him his heirs Executors & administrators after the manner of an apprentice to serve from the Day of the date hereof For and during the full end and Term of

Five Years or till he shall arive to 21 years of age . . . And the said James Mc Dowell for himself . . . in consideration Such Service the said Apprentice in the Art, Trade & Mystery of a Cabinet maker which the said James Mc Dowell useth by the best means that he can shall teach. . . .[1]

March 14, 1786

James Mc Dowell [seal]
his
William Truax [seal]
mark

Joshua Edwards
Francis Denny

I do not find a will for William Truax in the Delaware State Archives so I cannot say what happened to Truax after he completed his apprenticeship in Philadelphia. He is not presently known to have worked as a cabinetmaker in either Delaware or Philadelphia. This indenture helps, however, to date James McDowell, Sr.'s working period.

[1] Kent County Indentures.

CHARLES TRUTE

Pianomaker *Wilmington* *Working 1794-1807*

A source of great satisfaction to the student of Delaware cabinetmaking is the superior design and workmanship of the pianofortes made by Charles Trute and Trute Weidberg of Brandywine Hundred. One of the finest of these, made for the Elliott family of Wilmington, is in the collection of a descendant.[1] On the satinwood panel above the keyboard is the inscription: "Carolus Trute, Wilmington." The Elliott-Capelle pianoforte[2] is of mahogany and satinwood, with finely shaped skirt, line inlay, and tapering legs.

A Trute pianoforte with the additional documentation: "Charles Trute, Maker, Wilmington, Delaware," was recently presented to the Historical Society of Delaware.[3] Unfortunately, this one has lost its eighteenth century frame, which was replaced by a cumbersome one in the Empire style. We know these pieces are local productions because the 1807 inventory of Charles Trute's estate mentions not only mahogany and satinwood, but also piano wire and tools necessary for both cabinet and instrument making.[4] From 1782 to 1789 Trute lived and worked

in London, England, at 7 Broad Street North, Golden Square.[5] Sometime between 1790 and 1794, he and his cousin, Trute Weidberg, came to the United States and set up a harpsichord and pianoforte shop at 25 Filbert Street, Philadelphia.[6] They had moved to Brandywine Hundred by July, 1794, setting up a pianomaker's shop in a section of the Swan Inn which they operated, it being on the east side of the Philadelphia Road.[7] They must have found Wilmington a limited market for their expensive instruments and it is well that they operated a hostelry to provide them with a steady income.

Trute Weidberg died in 1803,[8] and Charles Trute carried on both businesses until his death, Nov. 16, 1807.[9] The Swan Inn continued under the management of Jane Trute, his wife.

[1] Mrs. George S. Capelle, Wilmington.
[2] Photo of Elliott-Capelle pianoforte, *Antiques*, XXXVI (Oct., 1939), 167, 168.
[3] Hall Collection, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington.
[4] Charles Trute, New Castle County inventories, 1807, Delaware State Archives, Dover. See appendix for transcription of Trute inventory.
[5] Donald H. Boalch, "Makers of the Harpshichord and Clavichord," 1440-1840, p. 126.
[6] Leon deValinger, Jr., "A Pianomaker Identified," *Antiques*, Jan., 1940, p. 15.
[7] *Ibid.*
[8] *Ibid.*
[9] "Died—On Monday night last, Mr. Charles Trute, late of Brandywine Hundred." *The Museum of Delaware & General Advertiser*, Nov. 21, 1807.

ABRAHAM VEZEY

Cabinetmaker ***Wilmington*** ***Listed in 1857 Directory***

Vezey was a colored cabinetmaker who lived and worked at West Second Street near Jefferson Street, according to William H. Boyd's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1857.*

HENRY VINING

Joiner ***Newport*** ***Working in 1752***

Vining is listed as a joiner or cabinetmaker in the 1752-54 census of communicants of Old Swedes Church, Wilmington.[1] The original list, in Swedish, is in the church archives (Lutheran) in Upsala, Sweden.

[1] Marie Windell, "News Notes," *Delaware History*, VII, 171.

ROBERT VIRTUE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Listed in 1845 Directory*

Virtue's address is listed in Lewis Wilson's *Wilmington City Directory for the Year 1845* as Fourth Street between King and French.

WILLIAM WARNER

Turner *Wilmington* *Working 1737-c. 1780*

William Warner, turner, father of Joseph Warner, Wilmington silversmith, came to Wilmington from Philadelphia in 1737.[1] On October 31, 1754, he married Sarah Eldridge in the second Friends Meeting House at Fourth and West Streets.[2]

[1] *Friends in Wilmington, 1738-1938* (Wilmington Friends Meeting, 1938), p. 137.
[2] George Valentine Massey II, "History of the Warner Company" (Unpublished ms. deposited with Warner Co., Wilmington, 1955).

JOHN WATTSON

Turner *Kent County* *Working before 1734*

In the Name of God Amen, the Eleven Day of December in ye year of our Lord one thousand and seven hundred & thirty three I John Wattson of ye County of Kent one Deliware, Turner . . . I give and bequeath to my Sister Margitt Wattson thirty shillings in Gold lying in ye hands of William Tyfords In Dorcett County—. I give and bequeath to Tabitha Wattson my Dearly Beloved Cusson all & Singler my Goods & Cattles & also [tear] paying my just Debts whom I constitute make and ordain my only & sole Executor of this my last will & testament . . . John Wattson [his mark] [1]

Signed, sealed & Delivered
In ye presents of us
Samuil Barrat
Jonath Giffin
Lear Gaskins
his X mark

[1] John Wattson, Kent County Wills.

MRS. WATT

Draper *Wilmington* *Advertised in 1799*

By the end of the eighteenth century Wilmingtonians were not only concerned with fine houses and comparable furniture, but were interested as well in seeing that the overall effect was also in the latest fashion. To achieve this harmony one had but to engage the services of one of the town's earliest interior decorators, who advertised:

> Mrs. Watt, Respectfully acquaints her friends and the public, that she executes, on the shortest notice, and in the newest taste, all the various DECORATIONS OF CHAMBER & PARLOUR FURNITURE. Bed and Window Curtains hung, trimmed and festooned. Chamber & Parlour Chairs fitted with Covers, trimmed, or otherwise. Settees and Easy Chairs, ditto. Toilettes decorated, and every article in the Display of Furniture, &c. executed to advantage and Fashion, on reasonable terms. County Orders carefully attended to, and produce taken in payment at market-price. Wilmington, Dec. 3, 1799.[1]

[1] *Mirror of the Times & General Advertiser* (Wilmington), Dec. 3, 1799.

TRUTE WEIDBERG

Pianomaker *Wilmington* *Working 1794-1803*

See CHARLES TRUTE.

JOHN WHITE

Joiner *Wilmington* *Working c. 1783-1828*

John White, joiner, and brother of Joseph White, apothecary and looking-glass salesman, was one of Wilmington's finest eighteenth century Quaker craftsman. Prior to 1791, he and Samuel Byrnes were partners in the cabinetmaking business, but by that year he was in business by himself. It was probably at this time that Samuel Byrnes established his residence in Baltimore.

John, son of William White and Ann McMullin, was born February

12, 1762. On October 21, 1790 he married Mary Robinson of Wilmington at the Wilmington Friends Meeting.[1] White's reputation as a competent cabinetmaker rests largely upon the only known piece of furniture thus far discovered bearing his label: [2]

JOHN WHITE
JOINER

Respectfully informs his Friends and the Public
That he continues to carry on Business, in the Shop lately occupied
by White & Byrnes, and opposite John Moore's

WHERE HE MAKES
MAHOGANY, CHERRY & [tear]
FURNITURE

In a neat Manner, and on reasonable terms.
Wilmington, 5th Mo. 6, 1791.

This fine piece of furniture, a four-drawer mahogany chest with fluted quarter columns, would be attributed to Philadelphia were it not for its rare label, for it has Philadelphia characteristics. Perhaps White served apprentice in that city. White's ability as a craftsman was recognized by his fellow citizens in Wilmington for he was chosen to superintend the finishing of the new Town Hall for the period 1797–1801. The Wilmington Borough Minutes for June 6, 1801, contain the entry apropos our subject:

> On Motion that John White be allowed one hundred and fifty Dollars, as compensation for his services as commissioner for building Town Hall and an order was drawn in his favor for $161.10 which includes a ballance due him on Acct. The other Commissioners relinquished their claim for any compensation.[3]

Other entries in the treasurer's minutes infer that he was supplying much necessary cabinetwork for the interior of the building under construction, but his bills do not seem to have survived, so we do not have an itemized record of the work he did for the project.

The item of furniture that has been in the Old Town Hall in Wilmington for the longest period of time is certainly the semicircular table, now in the museum on the first floor. I attribute this table to

John White. In 1799 when the burgesses were having the new Town Hall fitted out, they were approached by the Philosophical Society of Delaware, which organization requested and received permission to use a portion of the building for its meetings. The Wilmington Borough Minutes give us an idea of the progress made by the Society:

> Dec. 4, 1799
>
> The Committee to whom was referred the petition of the Philosophical Society of Delaware Report that they have had a conference with the Committee of that Society who informed them that their Institution would require a room partitioned off in the North west corner of the cellar so as to include the two front windows and the arch under the fireplace—of which they should have the exclusive priviledge—& that they request permission to make a hole thru the hearth of the Chimney above to open a passage for the flue of their furnace—They further request permission to use the large Room upstairs for holding their Meetings & delivering their Public Lectures, & that they have liberty to place in the Octagon a Press of semi-circular form whose Top shall represent a Table—to contain their Apparatus—
>
> Resolved that the Philosophical Society of Delaware erect the necessary Partitions & at their own cost—& that the Table in the Octagon be so constructed as to admit seats behind & suitable avenues around it—passed in the affirmative. Moved that the Philosophical Society of Delaware pay the annual sum of Ten Dollars for ordinary damages which may be the consequence of their use of the premises carried on the affirmative.[4]

The Society was careful with its funds for it chose to have the table constructed of pine and then given a mahogany stain, rather than pay the additional sum for finer wood. *The Mirror of the Times* for Feb. 1, 1800, carried this notice concerning the Philosophical Society of Delaware:

> The Public are informed, that the next LECTURE of the Society will be delivered at the TOWN-HALL on Tuesday evening next, at six p. m.—on the Phenomena of Earthquakes, Volcanic Eruptions, & etc. . . .

This lecture proved so popular that later in the year it was repeated.

The volcanic part of the occasion was accomplished by placing a large piece of canvas on the floor in front of the Judge's podium, upon which was formed a pile of gravel with a sand topping. Into the cone of the pile was placed supposedly low calibre fireworks such as we today know as "fountains" and "flowerpots." On this singular occasion, however, the fireworks proved worthy of their volcano. The sparks spouted toward the ceiling and clouds of smoke curled 'round the posts, swept up the stairway, and tickled the noses of diligent City Fathers working overtime. This spectacle produced the following entries in the Borough Minutes:

> January 1, 1801, Resolved that no clubs or association—Fire Companies excepted—shall have liberty to meet in the Town Hall in the future, and that those Associations who have been permitted to meet heretofore, be informed that they must clear the Town Hall by the first of Feby. next and that the Clerk furnish them with a copy of this Resolution.[5]

After hunting in vain for almost a year for a place in which to house the "Philosophical Appartus," the Borough Minutes for Dec. 9, 1801, inform us that:

> Jacob Alrichs on behalf of the Philosophical Society requested leave for the Society to meet in the Town Hall on the 19th Instant, for the purpose of disposing of their apparatus & etc. and also proposed to the corporation the purchase of their large case or table at present in said Hall. . . . It was agreed that the Philosophical Society have leave to hold a meeting, as requested, in the Town Hall, and that the corporation will give them ten dollars for their large case or table.

Thus at the cost of some risk to their new Town Hall and the sum of ten dollars, the Burgesses acquired the table made for the Hall by a local cabinetmaker, and which still occupies almost the same spot for which it had been constructed.

[1] *Friends in Wilmington, 1738-1938* (Wilmington Friends Meeting, 1938), p. 139.

[2] John White label in chest of drawers owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Frederick, New Castle County. This chest is a Brynberg family piece.

[3] Wilmington Borough Minutes, 1791-1801 (Delaware State Archives, Dover), June 6, 1801.

[4] *Ibid.*, Dec. 4, 1799.

[5] *Ibid.*, Jan. 1, 1801.

JOSEPH WHITE

Merchant *Wilmington* *d. 1798*

Joseph White's trade label has survived on a number of looking-glasses in the Chippendale style. He did not make them, but his brother John may have supplied the frames for the mirrors or looking-glasses themselves which White bought wholesale from John Elliott, Jr., in Philadelphia. Joseph White was a Wilmington apothecary who sold looking-glasses as a sideline, but his business in this respect was large enough to warrant his having a label made for the items he had for sale.

White's will was made October 25, 1798, and probated the following December. In the settlement of the estate, his brother John, one of the executors, craves that a number of accounts be settled out of the resources of the deceased, and the most important among these is the account with John Elliott, Jr.[1]

1802
May 26, John Elliott in part of a proven account — $140.00
Dec. 28, " " " " " " " " — 200.00
1803
Jan. 7, " " " " " " " " — 254.04

In the collection of the late Edward H. Porter, of Wilmington, there is a large Chippendale mahogany-framed looking-glass, with the label of John Elliott, Jr. Below the label is a painted inscription, "And sold by Joseph White in Wilmington."

In the collection of the late J. Kenneth Danby, of Wilmington, there was a small Chippendale mahogany-framed looking-glass of a type that one could consider local in origin. Upon the back of this looking-glass is Joseph White's label:

JOSEPH WHITE
At the sign of the BOY and MORTAR
A few doors above the upper Market House, on the opposite side of the way, in Market Street,
WILMINGTON
Has for sale, a complete assortment of
Looking-Glasses,
DRUGS, MEDICINES, PAINTERS COLOURS, &c
Which he is determined to sell on the lowest terms.
Printed by Bonsal and Starr, Wilmington.

[1] Joseph White, Estate Settlements, New Castle County Wills.

GEORGE WHITELOCK

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Working 1801-1833*

> GEORGE WHITELOCK, CABINET AND CHAIR-MAKER, Next door above the Town-Hall, Market Street, WILMINGTON, RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public, that he carries on the above businesses in all their various branches . . . and that he has constantly for sale Sideboards, Bureaus, Dining, Tea and Card Tables, finished in the neatest manner, with a general assortment of fashionable furniture. . . . As he is determined to employ only the first rate workmen, and make use of the best materials, he has no doubt of giving satisfaction to those who may favor him with their custom. June 23, (1804).[1]

George Whitelock is responsible for giving Wilmington its own Hepplewhite manner though this means only that his sideboards and clock cases were well made but not so profusely inlaid as those made in Baltimore at the same time. If the bellflower with elongated center petal can be considered a Baltimore inlay characteristic, then circular sunbursts are perhaps a Wilmington feature, in finely inlaid surfaces. During the period 1801-1805 his shop (a one story frame affair on the northwest corner of Sixth and Market Streets) produced attractive, inlaid mahogany sideboards in the Hepplewhite style, of a kidney shape and having only four legs. The sweeping curved doors on either side of the case are each supplied with a label advertising his shop. A labeled sideboard of this type is in the collection of the Historical Society of Delaware in Wilmington. A mahogany sideboard in the style of Hepplewhite, also bearing two of Whitelock's labels, is in a Dover collection.[2] This piece has a bowed center and straight ends.

Though most Whitelock pieces show a certain restraint from an inlay standpoint he was able to equal Baltimore work if the shop patron was willing to pay the cost of specially selected woods and intricate workmanship. Such a piece is the labeled clock case in the author's collection. This case is notable for its selected mahogany, line inlay, diamonds, fielded panels, stars, fans, ovals and sunbursts, all combined with a knowing eye and hand. The label on the interior back panel states that:

> GEORGE WHITELOCK, CABINET AND CHAIR-MAKER, Next door above the Town-Hall, Market-Street, Wilmington, Respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he carries

> on the above businesses in all their various branches. As he is determined to employ only the best workmen, and make use of the best materials, he has no doubt of giving satisfaction to those who may favor him with their custom. . . . He intends keeping a stock of ready made FURNITURE on hand, so that persons wishing articles in his line may be supplied on the shortest notice.[3]

The earliest reference to Whitelock that I have found is in the Wilmington Borough Minutes, 1801 to 1811, where under the date December 12, 1803, we find: "George Whitelock, for a large Board for the Tax list, one Dollar—for 1802."[4] Whitelock would have completed his apprenticeship in January, 1801, and may have set up shop in that year. In December, 1802, he was administrator and "next of kin" for the estate of his grandfather, Issac Whitelock.[5] Issac had operated a brewery in Wilmington. He was a native of Leeds, England but had been a member of the Pennsylvania Colonial Assembly in 1772.[6]

By 1805 George had married Sarah Sheward, sister of John and Perry Sheward (*q.v.*) who were to become Wilmington cabinetmakers and may have served apprentice to their brother-in-law Whitelock. The Whitelocks had eight children, three boys and five girls. Unfortunately, George, Jr., died young, William did not marry, and Charles, who married Martha Davenport, had at least one son, Augustus. The name seems to have died out in the Wilmington area at this date. The Whitelock's daughter, Margaret, married Daniel Banks. A descendant of this branch of the family, Mrs. William Watson Harrington, of Dover, has a daguerreotype of her ancestor Sarah Sheward Whitelock. She also has a Sheraton sideboard containing two of her ancestor's labels.

In 1806 Whitelock ran for coroner,[7] the following year he advertised a "Patent Machine For Shelling and cleaning Indian Corn,"[8] and by the year 1813 he was offering a reward of ten dollars for the return of an apprentice, John Larmouth.[9]

In 1818, the Reverend Levi Bull of Old Swede's Church ordered some furniture from Whitelock and when it had been completed he received and paid the following bill:

> 23d of April 1818 Received of Levi Bull Seventy six Dollars in full for a Sideboard, stand & table
>
> George Whitelock[10]

The Village Record for Nov. 15, 1820 carried the advertisement:

> Just Received, A consignment of the best live geese Feathers, and for sale at the shop of the subscriber No. 137, Market street, Wilmington, where all kinds of Cabinet Furniture can be had at the lowest prices. GEORGE WHITELOCK, Nov. 1 [11]

Whitelock was purchasing boards in Wilmington in 1822 [12] and this is the latest reference I have found for him, though Hornor [13] gives his death date as June 24, 1833. In Porter's first Wilmington directory (1814) we find the entry: "Whitelock, George cabinet maker, shop 137 Market, dwelling 145 King." [14]

[1] *The Museum of Delaware & General Advertiser*, Nov. 10, 1804.
[2] Collection of Mrs. William Watson Harrington, Dover.
[3] Author's collection.
[4] Wilmington Borough Minutes, 1801-1811, Delaware State Archives, Dover.
[5] New Castle County register of wills, Isaac Whitelock, Administrative, Vol. 0, Book 1, p. 71.
[6] William MacPherson Hornor, "George Whitelock," *Antiquarian*, January, 1930.
[7] *Mirror of the Times* (Wilmington), Jan. 15, 1806.
[8] *The Museum of Delaware & General Advertiser*, Nov. 28, 1807.
[9] "Ran away on the 1st inst. apprentice named John Larmouth about 20 years old; reward for bringing him home." *American Watchman*, Nov. 6, 1813.
[10] Author's collection.
[11] *The Village Record* (West Chester, Pa.), Nov. 15, 1820.
[12] Joseph Hemphill and Joseph Robinson cash book, 1822-1823, Business H, Ms. Collection, Historical Society of Delaware.
[13] Hornor, *op. cit.*, Jan., 1930.
[14] Robert Porter, *Directory of the Borough of Wilmington and Brandywine Village, 1814*.

JONATHAN WHITEMAN

House Carpenter and Joiner's Apprentice ***Duck Creek Hundred*** ***Apprenticed in 1787***

> Jonathen Whitman son of Samuel Whiteman late of Duck Creek hundred Kent County binds himself to William Smith of Duck Creek Hundred, House Carpenter and Joiner.
> March 22, 1787 [1]

[1] Kent County Apprenticeship Indentures, 1787.

JOHN WILLIAMS

Joiner *New Castle* *Working 1700-1758*

John Williams, eldest son of Henry Williams-Neering of New Castle, left behind a record of his everyday activities.[1] This rare item, a combined workbook and ledger, covers in a far from complete manner the period 1700-1758. John was, variously and successfully, a joiner, turner, cooper, shipwright, importer, exporter, shopkeeper, ship chandler, house carpenter and grocer.

It is his furniture accounts that interest us here, and we are fortunate to find so many orders for furniture together with the requested dimensions. Only one page of drawings appears in the workbook, but these are good examples for such an early period. Williams could produce anything in the woodwork line, from coat buttons to chests-on-chest. Following are some extracts from the workbook by which the reader can judge the nature of William's work:

1701

A Desk for Mr. Loardon 3 foot long
the fall 21 Inches wide & Top Do
2 foot 7 high Lowest part and to
Rise 6 Inches June (1701)
Drawer 4½ Broad Rails 4 Inch wide
narrow Do 3½

1742

Memo to make a Bedsted
for Cap. Clay. 7 foot 8 I. high
6 foot long 4½ feet wide
17 pins in the sides
11 Do. in the ends

1743

Joseph Land . . . To a Set of Table Legs (10 pence)

Sepr 1743 [p. 144]
Stephen Sykes Dr.
To Bottoming 4 Chairs 0:4:0

1744

Demensions of an ovil Table 4 Legs
4 foot D (?) 3 foot 3 Inches frame
Bed 17 I: Besides Quartered
Leaves 18 Is Frame 14 Is wide

Rails 7 ½ Brought to Leave (?)
gates 17 long

1745 [Page 63]
James King Dr.
To mending an old Case of Drawers 0–12–0

1745 Mr. John Baker Dr.
To makeing an ovil (table) 1– 5–0
To a Bottle Case 0– 6–0
To Bottoming 3 Chairs 0– 3–6
1–14–6

Decmr. 14, 1745 [Page 72]
Israel Blake Dr.
To a walnut Chest 1–5–0

Decemr. Mr. Samuel Blake Dr.
To a high Case Drs 6–10–0
To a Small Table 1–0–0

1746 [Page 72]
John Baker Dr.
To Hewing a Table 0–1–0

1746 [Page 74]
Capn Clay
To mending a Tea Table 0–1–6
To a handle to a Coffee pot 0–0–9

1746 [Page 84]
Dementions of a Desk for
Mr. John Daniel
3 foot 1½ Long
and the Same hight
4 whole Drawers Below
a Row of holes the whole
Length 10 Small Drs.
and a prospect
no Drawers

1746 [Page 84]
Mrs. Yeats
to a Bed Cornish 0–12–0

1746/7 [Page 85]
Dementions of a Tea Table made
for Mr. Curtis.

	2 foot 7 Is frame the	
	Longest way	
	Leaf 2 f 2″ high	
	feet 13 I Long 3½ wide	
1746/7		
March 7		
	I agreed to make a Low Case	
	of Drawers for Sarah Jonson.	
1747	[Page 62]	
Sepr.		
	Ezekel Bogs Dr.	
	to Bottoming and mending six	
	chairs.	0–8–0
Ocb	to mending a Table	0–1–0
	to mending an ovil Table	–3–6
1755	[Page 124]	
June	Mr. Hugh Dave Dr.	
	To makeing a shed to his mill	2–15–0
	To a counter with 26 drawers	3– 0–0
	To turning 26 Buttons	0– 2–2
	To altering a Counter and makeing	
	pertitions and Drawers	0– 4–6
1746	[Page 120]	
June	Mr. Chas Loardon Dr.	
	To a Book Case	2–0–0
Sept	To a Bed Cornish	0–15–0
1757		
January 8	To mending a tea table	0–1–6
	To making Rockers	
	for a Cradle	0–3–0
April	to a child's Coach	1–5–0
October	to making market Benches	0–5–0
1758	[Page 121]	
	Charles Lordon Dr.	
	To making a Crib	0–6–0
	To making a go cart	0–10–0

[1] John Williams Account Book, Business W, Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington. This account book was found by the late Francis D. Brinton of West Chester, Pa., at a farm sale near Strickersville, Pa.

JOHN WILLSON

Joiner *Northwest Fork Hundred* *Tax list, 1795*

"John Willson, Joiner," is listed in the tax list of Northwest Fork Hundred, Sussex County, in 1795. His tax was 1£.

JOEL D. WOLFE

Cabinetmaker *Wilmington* *Apprenticed in 1844*

Joel D. Wolfe, son of Harmon Wolfe of New Jersey, was apprenticed to John Sebo (*q. v.*), cabinetmaker of Wilmington, when he was 15 years, 6 months, and 15 days old "to be taught the art, trade and business of cabinet making." [1]

[1] Apprentice Indentures, Joel D. Wolfe, July 5, 1831.

JOHN YARNALL

Chairmaker *Wilmington* *Working c. 1770*

Daniel Byrnes, writing his "Family Reminiscences," says his uncle James Fitch Byrnes was the "son of Joshua Byrnes, he never married, he learned the chairmaking business with Jno Yarnall in Wilmington. . . ." [1] Whether this is the John Yarnall whose heirs are mentioned in 1773 in the Borough Minutes [2] as having sold some land to Dr. John McKinly, or the John Yarnall, very much alive, who married Elizabeth Newlin, 2nd mo. 2rd 1774, at the Wilmington Friends' Meeting [3] and in September of the same year supplied boards for the upper Market House,[4] I cannot say. It is possible that the two John Yarnalls mentioned may be father and son.

[1] D. Byrnes, "Reminiscences of the Byrnes Family" (Ms. in Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington).

[2] Wilmington Borough Minutes, Aug. 30, 1773, Delaware State Archives, Dover.

[3] *Friends in Wilmington, 1738-1938* (Wilmington Friends Meeting, 1938), p. 138.

[4] Wilmington Borough Minutes, Sept. 6, 1774, *loc. cit.*

APPENDIX A

Pages from the Work Book of John Janvier, Sr.

		£	S	D
January 8th 1794				
	To Makeing a field Bedstead	0	12	6
19th	To Makeing a Coffin	0	7	6
20th	To Ditto	0	7	6
30th	To Makeing a Clock Case	4	10	0
Febr 7	To Makeing Brekfast Table	1	7	6
	To Makeing a Dineing Table	1	2	6
March 1	To Makeing a Desk	4	15	0
6th	To Makeing a Dineing Table	1	2	6
10th	To Makeing a Brekfast Table	1	5	0
27th	To 13 Days work at 5 s per Day	3	5	0
April 9	To Makeing Card Table	1	7	6
14	To Makeing Dineing Table	1	2	6
20	To Makeing a Card Table	1	7	6
	To Makeing a Coffin [for] Boy	0	7	6
May 9	To Makeing a Clock Case	4	10	0
June 26,	To Makeing a Case of Drawers	5	10	0
April 9th 1795				
21st	To Makeing a Sideboard	4	10	6
28	To Makeing a Circular Bureau	3	15	3
May 8	To Do a Pair of Card Tables	3	17	5
	Do Sideboard	4	10	6
15th	To Do a pair of Circular Tables	3	17	5
June 1st	To Do a pair of Circular Bureaus	7	10	6
Sept. 15	Daniel Trotter Dr.			
1795	To Makeing a Mahogany Coffin alone	0	8	3
21st	To 5½ Days Work at Stove Pattrens	4	2	6
26	To Makeing a Mahogany Coffin	0	9	0
	To Makeing Do hingetop	0	10	0
Oct				
1	To Makeing a Walnut Coffin	0	9	0
12th	To Makeing 12 Slat back chairs, running the backs & Sawing out included 1"4"11 each	14	19	0
	To Sawing out 6 Commode fronts	0	1	3
14th	To Makeing a full Trim'd Coffin	0	15	0
15th	To Makeing a plain walnut Ditto	0	9	0
17th	To Cash Lent	1	2	6
Novr	To Makeing 10 heartback Chairs 19s/1½ each	9	11	3
11	To Makeing a Covered Coffin full trim	0	15	0
20th	To running 14 heart backs at 4s per	2	16	0
23	To Makeing 2 Close stool Chairs 1/6:7	3	13	2
Decr 3rd	To Makeing 7 Stands at 15/6 each	5	8	6
5	To Sawing out 8 Dozen of Chair stuff	1	0	0

24th	To Makeing 12 Slat back Chairs at 1/3/7½ each	14	3	6
January 1st	To Makeing 2 Armd Chairs at 1:15:1½ each	3	10	3
		£ 63	0	8

DANIEL TROTTER DR.

January 25 1796	To Makeing 6 Heartback Chairs at 1:8:10½	8	18	2
	To Makeing 8 Heartback Chairs at 1:3:1½	9	5	0
29th	To Makeing 2 Do with Arms at 1:15:7½	3	9	3
Febr	To Makeing 1 Slat back with Arms & Close Stool	2	2	4
5th	To 1 Day & ¼ Mending Chairs	0	15	
	To Makeing 2 Slat back Chairs at 1-3-13½	2	6	7
	To Makeing 1 Do with a Clost Stool & Arms	1	19	5½
19th	To Makeing 6 Stands at 15/6 @	4	13	0
27th	To Makeing 6 Heartback Chairs at 1:3:1½ @	6	18	9
March 7	To Makeing a pair of Oval Dining Tables at 2:9:	5	19	4
28th	To Makeing a Walnut Coffin hing'd Top	0	10	0
29	To Ditto plain	0	9	0
	To Makeing 6 Heartback Chairs at 1:6:7½	7	19	9
30th	To Ditto with Loose Seats at 1:12:4½ @	9	14	3
31	To Mending 2 Chairs	0	10	0
April 2nd	To Makeing a Close Stool Slat back Chair	2	0	1½
22	To Makeing 8 Square Back Chairs at 1:6:6½ @	10	12	4

July 4th 1796 DANIEL TROTTER DR.

	To Makeing a Walnut Coffin hinged top	0	10	0
	Do a mahogany 4 foot Dineing Table	1	8	0
	To Runing 8 Chairbacks at 4s each	1	12	0
15th	To 2 high post bedsteads Scalloped Cornice	2	5	0
	To a plain Walnut Coffin	0	9	0
	Do Do	0	9	0
17th	To a Mahogany Coffin 3 feet 3 inches handles	0	5	0
	To a Walnut Do plain	0	5	0
22nd	To 3 breakfast tables at 1-8-3 each	4	4	9
28th	To a pair of Circular Card Tables	3	7	8
	To work at 2 Chair top rails	0	2	6
August 4th	To a Mahogany Dineing Table 4 foot	1	8	0
	To 1 Do 3-6 Inches long	1	5	3
	To 1 Walnut Do 4 foot long	1	9	11
7	To 1 Days Work at walnut chairs	0	15	0
21st	To Makeing 8 Slat Backs Chairs runing & sawing out Included 1-4-11 each	9	49	4
Septr 2nd	To Makeing a Mahogany Coffin full Trim'd	0	15	0
11th	To Cash Lent	0	1	10½
	To Makeing 12 Slat Back Chairs at 1-4-11 each running & Sawing included	14	18	0
	to Sawing 3 Commode fronts for above Do	0	0	7½

		£		
	Francis Janvier Dr. May 28th 1796			
	To Makeing a Sighn	1	6	3
	Michael King Dr May 26,th 1796	£		
	To Makeing a Sighn	1	6	3
	June 30th			
	To a Breakfast Table	4	2	6

DANIEL TROTTER DR.

1796				
April 31st	To Makeing a Clock Case	6	17	1½
May 25	To Makeing a Walnut Coffin	0	10	0
28th	To Makeing a Coffin Hing'd Top	0	11	3
June 3rd	To Makeing 2 four feet D- Tables at 1:11:6	3	3	0
	To Ditto 3 feet 9 Inches 1:10:4 each	2	10	8
	To Ditto 3 feet 6 Inches at 1:9:2 each	2	18	5
4th	To Makeing a Coffin Hing'd Top & handles plated	0	12	6
21	To Makeing a Clock Case	5	9	8½
		23	2	0
		78	2	7
		101	4	7
June 30				
1796	To Makeing 2 pairs of Arms at 11-6 pr	1	3	0
July 20	To Makeing 12 Chairs at 1-4-10 @	14	18	0

DANIEL TROTTER DR.

July 29th 1796				
	To Running 6 Chair Backs at 2/6 @	0	15	0
	To Running 6 Chair Backs at 2/	0	12	0
August	To Makeing 6 Slat backs at 1:4:11 @	7	9	6
16th	To Mending 2 Chairs	0	7	6
26th	To Makeing 6 Square back Chairs at 1-1-9½ per Chair	6	10	9
31st	To Makeing a Close Stool Chair	1	16	10½
	To Makeing 2 Slatbacks with Close Stools	4	5	10
Septr 11th	To Makeing 6 Square backs at 1:1:9½ @	6	10	9
		28	8	2½

APPENDIX B

David Penny Estate Inventory

An inventory of the goods and chattels of David Penny Deceased late of Brandywine hundred New Castle County and State of Delaware taken the twenty first day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two.

An old Horse	$ 15.00
1 dark Brown Cow	19.00
1 peid do do	19.00
1 do Heifer	13.00
1 gig and Harness	35.00
1 Farm Dearborn and Harness	35.00
1 Cart	16.00
1 Lot of ½ inch walnut Boards in Waggon house	10.00
12 mahogany coffin boards & a black in do do	10.00
a lot of pine & other boards in do	2.75
2 Barrells & Salt in each	.75
1 cross cut Saw	.75
a ½ bushel & a peck measure	.50
Sundrys the remains of waggon house loft	.37½
a lot of ½ inch walnut boards in the Barn	6.00
1 iron pot in do	.75
1 Sledge—rope &c in do	.75
3 rakes & 3 forks in do	.75
Maple Stuff in the Barn East End	4.50
Wheel Barrow	1.50
Straw	.62½
Cuting Box	.50
2 Ladders	1.00
1 grind Stone	.65
1 Work Bench with tail screw	3.00
1 do do plain	1.25
16 Hand Screws ——	3.50
iron Cramp ——	.75
1 Hold fast ——	.25
Hand Saws ——	1.75
Sash & dovetail saws ——	1.25
2 Saws (1 for veneers) ——	1.50
1 Sweep saw ——	.50
1 Brace & 21 Bitts ——	2.75
1 old Brace & bitts ——	.75
an oil Stone ——	.25
10 Bench planes	3.25
planes on shelf ——	.50
plough and other planes ——	2.50
a Trammel, glue Kettle & Small vice ——	1.50
Augers & Drawing Knife ——	1.00
an old Stove ——	1.50
remains of Shop ——	1.00

Lumber & Stuff in Shop loft ——	5.00
Sledge & Crow Bar in do ——	3.00
1 Hearse ——	18.00
pine & other boards in the Shed ——	2.50
5 pieces of Speck'd maple scantling in shed	2.00
Basket ——	.25
½ inch walnut in old ware room ——	8.00
poplar in do ——	5.00
remains of do ——	3.00
a lot of walnut in the lot ——	4.00
2 do do do ——	2.75
1 lot of ½ in. poplar in the lot	4.00
1 do do do	4.00
1 do inch do do	4.50
2 do do do do	2.25
1 lot of inch Chery Boards & plank	3.50
3 lots of inch pine Boards ——	15.00
3 do culling Cherry ——	5.25
1 do inch do ——	7.00
1 do do do ——	6.00
1 do do do ——	3.75
1 do do do ——	2.25
1 do do do & plank ——	2.75
1 do do do & do ——	2.00
Maple boards & plank ——	1.00
Scantling & Cherry Boards ——	.75
1 lot of Maple scantling ——	4.00
1 do do do ——	7.00
2 lots of poplar ——	13.00
Amt carried over	364.40
2½ collumn maple Bureaus No. 1 ——	20.00
1 pair (No. 2) do do pine tops & round draw'd	17.00
1 Bureau (No. 3) maple top ——	8.75
1 do (No. 4) plain front maple ——	8.00
1 do (No. 6) Mahogany ——	10.00
1 do (No. 7) ½ Column ——	10.50
1 do (No. 8) Cherry ——	7.00
2 Breakfast Tables do ——	7.00
1 pine dining do ——	2.00
2 Maple Basin Stands ——	4.00
1 pair of unfinish'd Bedstds ——	2.25
1 do do do ——	1.25
Coffin stuff & piece of mahogany ——	1.50
1 High post Bedstead ——	7.00
1 Maple Field do ——	5.00
1 poplar French ——	2.75
a Tray ——	.50
2 Chests ——	4.00
1 Stand ——	1.25
2 Stands ——	1.00
2 Walnut cradles ——	4.75
1 poplar do ——	1.75
7 Setts Bed Screws ——	1.31
meat vessels &c in cellar ——	1.50

Saddle & Bridle " do ——		3.50
1 Barrell churn " " ——		1.75
Sundries in Kitchen Cellar ——		1.75
1 Maple Field Bedstd & Bedding	room No. 1	12.00
1 poplar High do & do	do do	12.00
1 Looking glass	do do	00.31
Carpet	do do	1.62½
1 old mahogany Bureau	room No. 2	5.00
1 large pine desk	do do	1.75
1 Cherry Bureau	room No. 3	3.75
1 Curld Maple High Post Bdstd & Bedding	do do	12.00
1 cot Bedstd &c	do do	3.00
1 maple Basin Stand; Bowl & pitcher	do do (room No. 3)	2.50
1 pair of and irons	do do	.50
1 Carpet	do do	2.50
6 Chairs (Black)	parlour	2.00
1 Clock & Case	do	28.00
1 recess side board	do	12.00
1 Cherry corner cupboard	do	8.00
1 Bent back Windsor settee	do	4.00
1 mahogany dining Table	do	8.00
1 do breakfast do	do	5.00
1 do candlestand	do	2.50
1 Cherry work stand	do	1.00
½ doz yellow chairs	do	4.00
1 looking glass	do	2.00
1 pr and irons and Shovel & tongs	do	2.00
waiter; lamps & candle sticks	do	1.00
contents of cupboard	do	1.00
Digest & other law Books	dining room	1.00
1 Stove	do	8.00
1 Walnut Table	do	3.75
1 do stand	do	.50
1 Looking Glass	do	2.00
Carpet	do	4.00
Contents of cupboard & mantle	do	2.00
a pine table with 1 leaf	kitchen	1.50
a card Table & pine stand	do	.75
Stove	do	4.00
and irons; tongs &c	do	1.75
Tin ware; rope & sundrys	do (Kitchen)	.75
Contents of cupboard &c ——		1.00
1 Bench in work shop (plain) ——		1.00
1 pair of Steel Yards ——		.50
2 Setts of maple Field posts ——		3.00
1 Single barrelld gun ——		4.00
		$ 677.89½
10 Shares U. S. Bank Stock. Dividend paid Oct. 15, 1829		1000.00
8 Do Farmers Bank Stock. Do July, 1829		400.00
Cash in Bank ——		22.14

Appraisers

Henry Lodge
John Ferris

APPENDIX C

Charles Trute Estate Inventory

An Inventory of the Goods and Chattels rights and Credits of Charles Trute of Brandywine Hundred in the County of Newcastle Deceased Taken by us The Subscribers the 14 day of December one thousand Eight hundred & Seven 1807

Sundry Wearing Apperrel ——	15.
Cash in Spanish Milled dollars & french Crowns	261.60
Sundry debts on note and Book Amounting to	558.50
1 Eight day Clock ——	50.
1 Large gilt Looking Glass	6.
1 large Mehogany dining Table ——	10.
1 Breakfast ditto 4-mehogany Tea Table 2.50	6.50
6 Winser Cheers 5 Dollers 6 Arm cheers 3 ——	8.00
3 Japan Servers I Doller Map of State of Delaware 2.50	3.50
Brass AndIrons & Tongs 4D^{s} 3 Window Curtins 3 Dollers	7.
11 Framed pictures with glass ——	3.
1 Floor Carpet 1 Doller 2 fowling pieces 9 Dollers	10.
1 Feather Bed bedding Curtins & Bedsted ——	40.
1 ditto ditto ditto & Mattrass	50.
1 ditto ditto ditto & ditto ——	50.
1 Small looking glass 2 Small Tables ——	7.
3 Window Curtins ——	1.50
3 Small pictures & 3 small bed carpets ——	1.50
2 Feather Beds bedding with Corded bedstids	65.
1 Pine Table ——	.75
	$ 1154.85
Amount Brot Over ——	1154.85
2 Cattail Beds Bedding & Bedstids ——	20.
1 feather Bed Bedding & Corded Bedstids ——	18.
2 long Tables 1 Doller ——	1.
Barr Room 10 Winser Cheers ——	4.
2 Tables 1.75 Cents Couch & furniture 2 C—	3.75
Brass And Irons & Tongs ——	3.50
1 Barrel & Some Syder 2 ds ½ barrell & Cherry 3	5.
3 Demmy Jons 3 Ds 4 Barr Kegs liquer & Brass Cocks 7	10.
Sundry Glass ware in the Barr ——	5.
Caster & vials 3 pewter mugs 3 large Bowls	3.50
2 Earthean Jars Pitcher & 2 bottles ——	.75
Lot [of] Cheyney ware 6 Silver tea Spoons & Silver sugar tongs	6.
Small looking glass Sundry Queens ware ——	1.50
2 Tables Doughtrough 2 benches Kitchen ——	2.
Queens Ware dishes & plates lot Earthean ware	3.50
3 brass Candlesticks and 4 Iron ditto ——	2.50
3 flat Irons Coffee mill & Tin Ware ——	1.50
2 Grid Irons and Toasters And Irons Shovel & Tongs	5.

1 Kettle Iron & Pot do ——	1.25
2 Teakettles, bake Iron Skillet, frying pans & pot racks	3.50
Coffee mill several old Casks 3 Empty hogsheads	6.50
1 Barrel & Syder 5 Dollars Earthean Ware 1	6.
5 pails 2 buckets Box knives & forks ——	3.50
	1272.10
Brot over ——	1272.10
2 Stone Jugs Scales & weight Small Chair	1.75
1 Ten plate Stove ——	12.
Rocking Cradle Walnut table ——	3.
Cattail Bed & Blanket ——	2.50
1 Side saddel 6 Dollars Old desk 2 ——	8.
Quantity Corn in the Ear ——	50.
Oats in the loft ——	10.
A Quantity feathers half bushel & Spead [Spade]	10.50
3 Work benches & Sundry Wooden screws ——	7.
1 large Smiths Vice 2 Six plate Stoves ——	13.
8 Saws of different Kinds ——	6.
Sundry Carpenter & Joiner Tools & Chest ——	100.
A Quantity of Wire ——	50.
A Small Quantity Saten & Mehogany wood ——	10.
Sythe & matock Cutting box and Some Casters	2.25
Oats in the Sheaf Wheat in ditto 55 ——	55.
Some hay in the Barn and a Small Stack ——	25.
Old Brown mare ——	10.
1 bay mare ——	45.
Sorrel Colt 3 years Old ——	30.
bay Colt 4 year Old ——	10.
deep Red Cow ——	15.
pale Red ditto ——	12.
Black Cow 16 Dollers 3 Heifers 36 Dollers ——	52.
2 Calves ——	12.
	$ 1824.10
Brot Over ——	1824.10
Family waggon in bad Order ——	6.
Small Cart ——	20.
Plough Harrow & Swingle Trees ——	6.
Cutting hay knife and Wheelbarrow ——	2.
Quantity have in Stable loft ——	14.
Lot Wheat in the ground ——	45.
	1917.10

Adam Williamson

appraisers

Amer Grubb

Jane Trute Adm:t

APPENDIX D

William Penny Estate Inventory

Inventory of the goods and chattels which were of William Penny of Brandywine Hundred, deceased as appraised by the subscribers

1 Ten [tin] plate stove and pipe	——	——	$ 7.00
1 old card table	——	——	1.
1 stand	——	——	.50
6 rush bottom chairs @ 25	——	——	1.50
Shovel, tongs and andirons	——	——	1.
Coffee mill	——	——	1.
Lot of sundries tin ware in closet	——	——	2.
one high case of drawers	——	——	3.50
Bench, bucket & clothes horse each 25	——	——	.75
one tin wash bason and a broom	——	——	.25
3 iron pots, brass kettle & sundries in closets		——	3.50
pair steelyards	——	——	.50
lot of jugs, tin kitchen, oil can	——	——	1.
chopping box, old chest, wood saw and hatchet		——	1.
2 Spinning wheels, reel and swift	——	——	.75
Lot of forks, rakes and hough	——	——	.75
Pot hangings and crane	——	——	.50
2 baskets and 2 canes	——	——	.75
2 sets quilting frames	——	——	1.
a lot of boxes old chest and tray	——	——	.50
a half peck measure & a scale	——	——	.25
Basket, crock & 2 mouse traps	——	——	.63
3 benches 2 ash barrels and crockery ware	——	——	.75
French bedstead, bed and beding	——	——	15.
one Settee and cushion	——	——	3.
3 chairs @ 25	——	——	.75
Writing table and book case	——	——	4.
small looking glass and 5 pictures	——	——	.50
4 pieces of rag carpet	——	——	1.
1 gun	——	——	1.
1 cherry bureau	——	——	4.
Dining table	——	——	3.50
			63.13
Continued Brot forward			
Cherry breakfast table	——	——	2.50
one cupboard of cherry	——	——	4.
Lot of queens ware in cupboard	——	——	2.
6 windsor chairs	——	——	2.25
3 pieces carpet on floor	——	——	1.
Looking glass 2 pictures wash bason & pitcher		——	2.
one bedstead, bed & beding up stairs	——	——	8.
one walnut card table	——	——	2.50
Chest, box of books	——	——	1.50

old looking glass, 2 pictures	——	——	.25
one old chair	——	——	.13
Bureau in the entry up stairs	——	——	2.
3 sheets 1.50 four pillow cases 50	——	——	2.
5 bedquilts one coverlid	——	——	4.
1 rush bottom arm chair	——	——	.50
picture of Genl Jackson small looking glass		——	.75
Lot of sundries in the cellar	——	——	1.50
Dearborn & harness	——	——	40.
old chest, spade & dung fork carriage house	——	——	1.25
one wrench, curry comb & sundries	——	——	.50
fork, rake & lot of old iron	——	——	.75
Jack & tar can	——	——	.50
lot of boards & scantling carriage hous[e] loft		——	5.
old scythe & rake	——	——	.50
large well rope & cow mussel	——	——	1.
2 boxes with sundries in, one collar	——	——	.56
1 barrel with some salt in	——	——	.13
1 old hearse	——	——	3.
1 stove & pipe in shop	——	——	4.
one work bench with tail screw	——	——	2.
one Do	——	——	1.
2 hold fasts & iron vice	——	——	.75
2 hand, & one tennant saw @ .50	——	——	1.50
4 hand screws & iron tramel	——	——	.50
2 flat irons, glue kettle and skillet	——	——	.25
Lot of jugs and sundries	——	——	.25
			163.45
Continued Brought forward			
7 Gages & pollishing box	——	——	.25
8 bench planes	——	——	2.
5 hammers one iron weight	——	——	.50
Oil stone, rabbit & moulding planes	——	——	1.
Brace & bits	——	——	1.
Lot of squares, bevels, and pair pinches	——	——	1.
Lot of sundries in drawer	——	——	1.
Lot of files, gauges & chissels	——	——	1.
Bow saw, clamp & key hole saw	——	——	.75
Lot of cuttings and sundries over head	——	——	.50
Lot of boards in shop	——	——	1.
Lot of sundries in box up stairs	——	——	1.
2 cherry breakfast tables @ 3	——	——	6.
2 workstands @ 2.00	——	——	4.
1 dough tray [.] 50 small table [.] 50		——	1.
one lot of mahogany boards, cuting & etc.	——	——	5.
Lot of hand screws, iron cramp	——	——	2.50
Lot cuttings in shop garret screw wrench	——	——	1.
Lot boxes and sundries in them	——	——	1.
grind stone & frame	——	——	2.
one grey horse	——	——	50.
one cow	——	——	10.
Lot of hay in the barn	——	——	20.
one Sleigh 3 and a ladder 1.00	——	——	4.
one hog	——	——	3.

Carpenters bench, lot of boards & cuttings	——	——	1.50
			285.50
Those two articles omited on this List	——	——	
To one walnut Braureau	——	——	4.00
To one maple stand	——	——	0.75
			290.25

We the subscribers, appointed by the Register appraisers of the goods and chattels that were of William Penny late of Brandywine Hundred deceased, do on oath & affirmation respectively say, that the goods and chattels in this Inventory have been appraised by us at the sums set down against the same respectively, and that said sums are, according to the best of our skill and judgment, the true value of said goods and chattels in money. dated the 19th day of October 1843.

Wm G Jones George Forwood

APPENDIX E

John White Estate Inventory

An Inventory and Appraisement of the Goods and Chattles of John White late of the Borough of Wilmington, County of Newcastle and State of Dellaware Dece'd Aprais'd March 9th 1829 By the Subscribers—

Wearing Apparel — $ 10.
1 field Post Bed Stid & Bottom — 5.
1 Bed Bolster & Pillows — 10.
1 low post Bedstid & Bottom — 3.
1 Mehogany Burough — 4.
1 Cherry Do — 3.50
1 Mehogany Do — 6.
1 Dressing Glass — .40
1 Maple wash stand — 2.00
Wash Bason & Pitcher — .40
1 field post Bed Stid & Bottom — 4.00
1 Bed Bolster & Pillows — 5.
1 Case Drawers — 6.
1 Small pine table — .50
1 Small looking Glass — .60
1 walnut table with three Drawers — 1.
1 Straw Bed & Bed Stid — .50
6 Green winsor Chairs — 3.00
5 old Do Do — 1.25
1 Easy Chair — .30
6 Bed Quilts @ 1.00 — 6.00
2 Blankets 75 — 1.50
6 Sheets 50 — 3.00
4 pr Pillow Cases — 25 — 1.00
1 Bolster Case — .18
6 Green winsor Chairs 40 — 2.40
1 Popler Breakfast table — 1.75
1 Looking Glass — 2.00
1 Eight Day Clock — 20.
1 white Counter pin — 1.
(Total) &105.28
(2nd col. 1st page) Acct Brt Up $105.28
A lot Books — 1.50
1 mehogany Desk & Book Case — 10.
1 Do Dining table — 6.
1 Do Card table — 3.
1 Sette — 1.50
1 Large looking Glass — 5.50
1 Small Stove & Pipe — 5.00
1 Lot Glass ware — 1.
9 Blue plates — .70
½ Doz Cups & Saucers — .40
1 pr tea pots & Sugar Bowl — .50
1 Dish & 1 Coffe pot — .40
3 Bowls — .15
1 Rocking Chair — 1.00
1 old Desk — .50
1 Stove & pipe — 3.
2 old tables — .30
1 old Cubbord — .40
1 Ditto Do — .40
A lot of Crockeware — 3.00
A lot tin ware — .50
two water Buckets — .75
1 large Boiler — 1.00
3 old Chairs — .12½
3 tubs — @ .40 — 1.20
lot of Sundries — 1.
1 looking Glass — .20
1 Coffemill — .12
2 pr tongs & 1 Shovel — .25
2 iron pans — .30
1 tea Kettle — .75
2 iron pots — .50
Gridiron Skillet & Bake iron — .75
1 tin Hitchers — .25
$ 157.23
Amount Brot over $ 157.23
two Baskets — .37½
A lot of Jugs & Jars — .70
A lot of Sundries — .30
1 Case of Drawers — 2.00
1 Burough — 1.
1 Desk & Drawers — 1.50
1 old Bed Stid — .25
1 pr Scales & funells — .75
1 frying pan — .50
Sheet iron Stove & pipe — 1.00
A lot old Stove pipe — .60
A lot old Lumber — 1.00

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BY J. H. FURST COMPANY, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND